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# MOTHERS' AID



## IN NORTH CAROLINA

SPECIAL BULLETIN No. 7

ISSUED BY THE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES AND PUBLIC WELFARE  
KATE BURR JOHNSON, COMMISSIONER  
RALEIGH, N. C.

1926

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North Carolina  
State Board of Charities and Public Welfare

# HANDBOOK ON MOTHERS' AID



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## GOAL

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"Our goal is the development of the personality and character of the children under our care; we believe that the family is the natural cradle wherein the adequate growth of human beings may be best fulfilled; and we discover that development within the framework of the family is dependent upon the proper functioning of the growing child in relation to six fundamental factors: health, education, work, recreation, worship, and beauty. Each of the elements of normal living must correlate in some kind of rhythmic fashion to render life harmonious and significant; and it is our duty to aid these children to function wholesomely on all six planes, for if one of these six elements be missing, the child's future will be crippled and distorted."

MARY F. BOGUE,

*Director Mothers' Assistance Fund,  
Harrisburg, Penn.*

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## FOREWORD

This Handbook, it is hoped, will find a place on the desk of every county superintendent of welfare administering Mothers' Aid. Heretofore this information has been sent out in form letters which were all too easily mislaid, or lost, and much time and postage has been needlessly wasted because of applications sent in only partially filled out and before the applicants had been fully investigated.

It is believed that if every superintendent of welfare and member of a county board of welfare will carefully study this little handbook that much time and trouble will be saved the applicant, the county officials, and the State Director.

Special thanks are due Mr. George Lawrence, of the School of Public Welfare at Chapel Hill, for his study of two hundred cases, and Mrs. Kathleen B. Holding, secretary of the Mothers' Aid Department, for her help in compiling this material. The Manual for Mothers' Aid Assistance Fund of Pennsylvania, prepared by Miss Mary F. Bogue, has been of great assistance in writing this bulletin.

The Handbook, it is hoped, will also be of benefit to social workers in the State, other than superintendents of welfare, who are seeking help in problems of family welfare.

EMETH TUTTLE,  
*Director of Mothers' Aid.*

Large figures show number cases in County.  
Small figures show fund from County and State.

Large figures show number cases in County.  
Small figures show fund from County and State.

# I. THE STATUTES

[PUBLIC LAWS, SESSION 1923]

## CHAPTER 260

### AN ACT TO AID NEEDY ORPHAN CHILDREN IN THE HOMES OF WORTHY MOTHERS

*The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:*

SECTION 1. That the boards of county commissioners of the several counties of the State are hereby authorized, in their discretion, to make an allowance to any eligible mother (as hereinafter explained and defined) for her support, where she is left with a child or children under fourteen years of age, under the conditions hereinafter set forth.

SEC. 2. That the county board of charities and public welfare of any county, after investigation by the county superintendent of welfare, may determine what amount within the provisions of this act is advisable for the care of a child or children, and shall recommend to the board of county commissioners that an appropriation be made for the support of such mother and child or children under fourteen years of age.

SEC. 3. That the maximum amount to be allowed per month under this act shall not exceed fifteen dollars for one child, ten dollars additional for the second child, and five dollars additional for the third child, or any excess of three: *Provided*, the total amount shall not exceed forty dollars, except in extraordinary circumstances in which it appears to the satisfaction of the board of county commissioners that a total of forty dollars per month would be insufficient to secure the purposes above set forth.

SEC. 4. That to be eligible to apply for mother's aid a woman must be the mother of a child or children under fourteen years of age, a resident of the State of North Carolina for three years, and a resident of the county for one year preceding, and possessed of sufficient mental, moral, and physical fitness to be capable of maintaining a home for herself and child or children and prevented only from lack of means. Such person must be either a widow, or divorced, or deserted, if it be found impossible to require the husband to support her, or the husband is found to be mentally or physically incapacitated to support his family, or if the husband be confined in any jail and assigned to work the roads of any county or in any penal or eleemosynary institution, provided no relative is able and willing to undertake sufficient aid: *Provided*, that if the mother is given partial aid or assistance by any relative or charitable organization, the board of county commissioners, in their discretion, may make allowance to such mother to help out the same where it may be necessary, in their opinion and judgment.

SEC. 5. That any board of county commissioners taking advantage of the provisions of this statute may require that the report of the investigation of the county superintendent of welfare in every case shall be presented to and approved by the judge of the juvenile court in that county before making an appropriation.

SEC. 6. That the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare shall have general oversight of the administration of this act with the view to making it uniform throughout the State; shall furnish all necessary blanks and give such advice and help as it can in order to aid in efficiently securing its purpose. The county superintendent of public welfare shall make his report on any case to the board of county commissioners in duplicate, one copy of which shall be forwarded at once, with the action of the board of county commissioners endorsed thereon, to the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare and one filed by the board of county commissioners with its records in the case. The State Board of Charities and Public Welfare shall at once notify



the board of county commissioners its approval or disapproval for reimbursement as provided in section eight of this act, and the said board may suggest additional requirements for the consideration of the board of county commissioners.

SEC. 7. That after investigation by the county welfare officer, when the board of county commissioners shall adjudge that a mother is entitled to aid under this act, said board of county commissioners shall determine the monthly amount that the board of county commissioners may allow and order its treasurer in writing to pay said amount to the person designated by it and continue the same monthly until the order be changed or the expiration of the time for which the order is limited.

SEC. 8. That at the end of each fiscal quarter the treasurer of the county wherein aid has been granted shall furnish an itemized statement in each case of amounts paid, duly certified by him under oath, to the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. If each case thereon shall have been approved by the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare and all required regulations of this act shall have been fulfilled, the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare shall certify the account to the State Treasurer, whereupon the State Treasurer shall immediately make out and forward to such county treasurer his voucher for one-half of the total amount certified as having actually been paid out by the county. Such voucher shall be made out against any fund in the treasury not otherwise appropriated: *Provided*, the total amount for the State shall not exceed a maximum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, to be apportioned among all the counties on a per capita basis: *Provided*, that the proportionate share of any county not availing itself as above provided by this act shall remain in the hands of the State Treasurer until otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 9. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 10. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 26th day of February, A.D. 1923.

#### [PUBLIC LAWS, SESSION 1925]

#### CHAPTER 292

#### AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 5067 (h), CONSOLIDATED STATUTES, VOLUME III, IN REGARD TO THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE MOTHERS' AID FUND.

*The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:*

SECTION 1. That section 5067 (h) of the Consolidated Statutes, Volume III, 1924, be and the same is hereby amended by striking out that part of the last sentence of said section, beginning with the word "provided" after the words "per capita basis," in line 13 and continuing to the end of the section, and by substituting in lieu thereof the following: *Provided*, that if the boards of county commissioners of any county shall fail to enter into an agreement with the State, on or before the first Monday of June, 1925, or on or before the first Monday in June of any succeeding year, that they will meet the State apportionment for Mothers' Aid in such counties for the ensuing fiscal year, in accordance with the provisions of this act, then the amount apportioned to that county shall revert to the general Mothers' Aid Fund and be available for apportionment to the counties complying with the provisions of this act, on the basis of the population of these counties.

SEC. 2. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

## II. THE MOTHERS' AID LAW

### PURPOSE OF THE LAW

The idea incorporated in the various Mothers' Aid laws that have been passed by forty-two states in the past fourteen years is that Motherhood, in its truest sense, is of financial value to the State. It seems strange that through the years we have been admonished to visit the widows and the fatherless in their affliction and to minister unto them—and that our response has been to take the children immediately and put them in an institution if space could be found. The Mothers' Aid laws are proof that citizens have realized that to break up a home of any sort is a delicate social-surgical operation, but to break up a home for poverty alone is a crime.

To give a widow a definite sum of money once a month to care for her children is only the letter of the law. The spirit takes in the realization of the mother's and children's lack of the father and all that his character and presence meant in the home. The Mothers' Aid Fund cannot supply this need, but the superintendents of welfare can, through friendly visits and with the assistance of the county boards of welfare, help in every way possible to make the family life normal.

The Mothers' Aid law is not perfect. Already several amendments are contemplated, but it is a big step forward in child welfare in North Carolina. Whether it is succeeding in the various counties administering it depends upon the interest taken in the work by the people of the counties. Well administered it is capable of much good, poorly administered it is dangerous. At its best it is a wonderful, constructive agency, capable of taking its place with the best of the forces for conserving the childhood of the State.

### Policies

At the Public Welfare Institutes at the University of North Carolina in 1924-1925 vexing problems of Mothers' Aid were discussed and the following policies adopted by the superintendents of public welfare.

### Desertion

The law is very elastic in regard to desertion cases. This laxity had made it hard for officials to know when a desertion is a desertion. It was decided that if a man's desertion had extended over twelve months and all efforts to locate him had failed, the mother might make application for aid.

### Physical Disability

The law is indefinite in regard to physical disability. This point, it was decided, must rest upon the findings of a thorough physical examination by a reputable physician and the written report of the examination must accompany the application.

Furthermore, it was agreed that no case could be considered for Mothers' Aid with active tuberculosis, or other infectious or contagious

disease in the home. Plans must be worked out for caring for this situation outside the home before the case is approved.

### **Property**

The amount of property a woman may own was discussed. It was decided to study the question individually and decide upon its merits as in the past.

### **Roomer**

The superintendents ruled strongly against the "one-man roomer."

### **Immorality**

It was agreed to make careful and patient inquiry into rumors relating to immorality about any woman receiving aid. If the evidence is sufficient to remove a mother from the list, the reasons for such action should be explained to the mother and her case either referred to some other agency or provision made for the children.

### **Adequate Grants**

The question of adequate grants was discussed and the superintendents agreed to educate their commissioners and committees to the wisdom of helping families as adequately as possible—not spreading the money as thinly as possible.

### **Discontinuing**

Because of indefinite statement in the law regarding discontinuing a case, it was agreed that no change should be made in the status of a case except upon investigation by the superintendent, discussion by the board of welfare, and recommendations to county commissioners and to the State. The State office either accepts the recommendations or appeals to the county for further investigation. This policy will relieve the superintendent, or the county commissioners, of personal responsibility.

This does not apply to cases where the mother remarries or the husband returns from a State institution or chain-gang, after desertion, or when a mother leaves the State. Such cases come off automatically, but should be verified before information is sent to the State office. If a mother moves from one county to another the county of her last residence may continue to aid her as long as she needs help up to twelve months.

### **Vouchers**

Because of much misunderstanding in regard to the quarterly vouchers the State office agreed to mail to each superintendent administering aid the THREE voucher forms during the last month of the quarter. The superintendents agreed to fill out the vouchers properly, have them signed by the county treasurer, and return all THREE copies to the State office.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

Section 2 of the bill reads, "That the county board of charities and public welfare of any county, after investigation by the county superintendent of public welfare, may determine what amount, within the provisions of this act, is advisable for the care of a child or children, and shall recommend to the board of county commissioners that an appropriation be made for the support of such mother and child or children under fourteen years of age."

#### A Community Problem

The administration of Mothers' Aid is therefore a community responsibility first.

#### County Superintendent of Welfare

It rests with the superintendents of public welfare to make a thorough investigation of the mother herself, her family, home, relatives, and people who know her in her present home or at previous addresses. Members of the county board of welfare and commissioners may be consulted as references, as well as persons listed under "Eligibility."

#### County Board of Welfare

When the investigation is complete the superintendent is expected to present the case at the regular meeting of his board of welfare and go over the application blank with them. The board members are expected, in their turn, to read and discuss the applications and to decide whether or not to ask the commissioners for aid. If the meeting of the board of welfare is held a few days preceding the meeting of the board of commissioners, much time and trouble will be saved. In several counties in the State not having a superintendent of public welfare the board of welfare is so much interested in the work that one of its members makes the investigations and does the visiting.

#### County Commissioners

The commissioners' work is to hear the findings of the county board in regard to the amount the mother needs and to decide what the grant will be. This relieves them of all responsibility, except that of seeing that the county treasurer makes out the checks to each mother each month and sends in his voucher for reimbursement to the State, quarterly.

There has been a great deal of misunderstanding in the past about the above points. Much of it is due to the fact that county officials *have not read* the law. Perhaps if at the next meeting of his board the county superintendent would read the entire law it would be of great benefit.

First Monday is a very busy day. Commissioners want things cut and dried. Instead of taking up time with circumstances of a case, or,



on the other hand, just asking for so much for a Mothers' Aid case, present a case very briefly: "Mrs. S. of Holly, R. F. D. No. 1, a widow with four children, has applied to the county board of welfare for Mothers' Aid. We have gone into the merits of the case thoroughly and recommend that she be granted \$35 a month. I have the application here for your signature and will be glad to answer any questions."

The same form should be observed in reducing or increasing or discontinuing a grant.

A letter similar to the one suggested below should be promptly mailed to each mother as she is put on the list:

DEAR MRS.....:—Your application for Mothers' Aid has been duly presented to the county commissioners of.....County, and to the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. We are glad to inform you that beginning with the month of.....you will receive a check for \$..... each month from the county treasurer for your county and State grant. This grant will continue until such time as it appears upon further investigation, and with your knowledge, that a change should be made."

(Signed) SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC WELFARE.

If this grant is changed or discontinued, then a personal letter should be sent setting forth reasons for the change.

These little courtesies would mean a great deal to these mothers and would take very little time.

#### **Procedure of Superintendent of Public Welfare in Administering Mothers' Aid**

To assist the mother in making application.

To make investigation of home and references at request of county board of public welfare.

To give this report in writing, according to outline submitted by State Board, to the county board for approval, sending originals and duplicates of such cases as county board approves to State Department.

To keep in touch with the family through:

- a. *Monthly* visits.
- b. School attendance.
- c. Working certificates.

To keep in close touch with the board of public welfare through discussions of various problems in Mothers' Aid cases and to secure their help.

To help in plans to keep ambitious, bright children in school after they reach fourteen years.

To find suitable work for children coming of working age.

To find suitable work, preferably in the home, for mother, if necessary.

To put mother in touch with all county and State agencies, health, educational, recreational, religious, that will aid family.



To check over family budget every six months, at least, and maintain, reduce, reject or increase; to make report to the county commissioners and to report their action to State Department.

To preserve in every way possible the self-respect of the mother, avoiding any implication of charity, emphasizing the idea of partnership between the mother and the State.

## IV. INVESTIGATION

The very first point to be considered in an applicant for Mothers' Aid is the woman's own eligibility under the law. If this is not settled at the beginning of the investigation, time, and sometimes money, is lost. It is a reflection on the superintendent of welfare to make a superficial and hurried investigation and then "to find out something" about the woman after she has been receiving aid several months that makes it imperative to drop her. Many superintendents who have lived in their counties for years know the type and character of their clients, thoroughly, but do not know the details that are necessary if the family is to be helped wisely.

To be eligible:

1. "A woman must be the mother of a child or children under fourteen years of age."

2. "A woman must be a resident of the State of North Carolina for three years and a resident of the county for one year preceding." (In a few counties officials have continued aiding mothers on their list a few months after the mother has moved into another county. This is legally right, because she is a resident of that county until she establishes residence elsewhere. It is economically right, because the mothers have moved with the coöperation of superintendents of welfare in order that they might improve living conditions and become self-supporting.)

3. "A woman must be possessed of sufficient mental, moral and physical fitness to be capable of maintaining a home for herself and children and prevented only from lack of means. (Under Grants to Mothers will be found an explanation of what we mean by 'home.' It will readily be seen that the pauper type of woman is not the kind intended for Mothers' Aid.)

4. "Such a person must be either a widow, or divorced, or deserted, if it be found impossible to require the husband to support her, or the husband is found to be mentally or physically incapacitated to support his family, or if the husband be confined in any jail and assigned to work the roads of any county or in any penal or eleemosynary institution, provided no relative is able to and willing to undertake sufficient aid: *Provided*, that if the mother is given partial aid or assistance by any charitable organization the board of county commissioners, in their discretion, may make allowance to such mother to help out the same where it may be necessary in their opinion and judgment."

The above points must be verified by court and institutional records. A further discussion is found under "Policies."

If Associated Charities, Red Cross, or other organization has dealt with the family, a summary of the history should be secured. If the county has a confidential exchange, this will be a mere matter of form. If there is no confidential exchange, then a request for this information, in order to avoid duplication of effort, will help show the need of centralizing the family case work.

Teachers, preachers, church visitors, relatives, employers—past and present—doctors, rural mail carriers, "the leading man in the community," and the "time merchant" should be interviewed. This not only to get information, but to acquaint them informally with the value of the work and to secure their interest and help.

Following is suggested an outline that may be of help in making an investigation in a family applying for aid:

- A (1). The Husband's Death.  
1. Circumstances; cause and date of death, verify.  
2. How long was he ill? Name and address of doctor.
- A (2). The Husband's Desertion.  
1. Why? When?  
2. What efforts have been made to locate him and secure support for his children?
- A (3). The Husband's Commitment to State Hospital.  
1. Date of commitment. Physician in charge. Place.  
2. Diagnosis (obtain from a physician).  
3. Influence of man's condition on family—depressing or disturbing?
- A (4). The Husband's Commitment to Penal Institution.  
1. Date. Session of Court. Judge.  
2. Cause of sentence. Length of sentence. (No case with sentence of less than one year eligible.)
- A (5). The Husband's Permanent and Total Disability.  
1. Diagnosis and prognosis from reputable physician. (Does doctor believe everything possible has been done for man? What does he suggest?)  
2. Is there likelihood of more children if man stays at home?
- B. Sources of Help and Information.  
Relatives—names and circumstances of nearby relatives. Distant relatives. What plans do they suggest? How will they help in carrying them out?  
Church and other social agencies. Does the pastor know family personally? What financial help does the church give?  
What other agencies, social or fraternal, are interested in the family? Do they advise Mothers' Aid, or do they think children should be removed and placed elsewhere?  
Employers, friends. What help and information can they give?
- C. Background and Married Life.  
1. Man's ancestry—education, reputation as he was growing up, early employment.  
2. Woman's ancestry—education, reputation before marriage, employment before marriage.  
3. Married life—how long had man and woman known each other? Financial conditions under which they set up housekeeping? Did wife have regular amount to spend or did husband do all the managing and buying?  
4. Was married life happy? Reputation as a father. Physical defects.  
5. Is there any history of drunkenness, tuberculosis, immorality, insanity, feeble-mindedness, epilepsy, on the man's side?  
6. Did he ever have a court record? Why?
- D. Mother.  
1. Character and ability.  
a. Is she temperate? Resourceful? Optimistic?  
b. Is she thrifty? Does she buy and cook nourishing food? What is her idea of a good daily menu?  
c. Condition of house, mother and children, as regards cleanliness and order.  
d. Does she give the children religious training?  
e. Is there any history of immorality, drunkenness, insanity, feeble-mindedness, epilepsy, tuberculosis, physical defects in mother's family?

- f. Are there curtains, rugs, pictures, books, flowers in the home?
- g. Does she take part in community activities?

E. Children.

- 1. Individual characteristics and ambitions.
  - a. Are they obedient and helpful? Can the mother control them, especially the boys?
  - b. Are there juvenile court records? Why?
  - c. Do they like their school and teachers? If not, why? Are they retarded? Why? Irregularity, sickness, sub-normality? Do they want to stop at fourteen?
  - d. Do they attend Sunday School?
  - e. Do they belong to church societies, Scouts, or other recreational groups?
  - f. Have any of the children special talents or ambitions?
  - g. What are the mother's plans for their future?
  - h. If there are grown children in the home, what do they think of their mother's receiving aid? Are they doing their part?
- 2. Others in the home. Relation to the family?
  - a. What is their effect on the home life?
  - b. Should other arrangements be made for them?

F. Present Environment.

- 1. What is the character of the neighborhood? Where do the children play?
- 2. Condition of the house, roof, plastering, type of water supply?
- 3. Are there separate sleeping rooms for boys and girls above twelve years of age? Number of beds? Is bedding clean and sufficient? Are rooms airy and sunny?
- 4. How does the standard of living compare with that when the man was alive?

G. Health of Mother and Children.

- 1. Mother's physical condition—make special inquiry as to decayed teeth, headaches or eye trouble, back ache, goitre, uterine trouble, varicose veins, cough, throat.
- 2. Children.
  - a. Mental and physical condition of each. Was he normal at birth? Tonsils and adenoids, bad teeth, frequent colds, eye trouble, ear trouble, skin eruptions, malnutrition?
  - b. How much milk does family use daily? Source of supply?
  - c. If physical examinations seem necessary, they should be made and reports sent in with application if the county has health officer. Otherwise they can be made and followed up as quickly as possible. In cases where there is a history of T.B. or V.D. examinations are required of every member of the family.
  - d. Does any member of the family need institutional care?
  - e. Work problems. Has mother time for some remunerative work at home? Outside? (See chapter on Home Occupations.)

NOTE.—Miss Richmond's Questionnaire on "The Widow with Children," and Miss Bogue's Manual have been of great help in preparing these questions.

## V. APPLICATION BLANK AND TYPICAL HISTORY

### NOTE

The application for Mothers' Aid and history following was adapted from an actual case in a superintendent's office. All names of persons and places are changed.

To a superintendent with no clerical help such a record may look very long, but when he considers that with the exception of the hours necessary in filling out the application and writing the accompanying history the remainder was written over a period of two years it does not seem too hard to do. Certainly the mother is entitled to as definite a record as this.

#### STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES AND PUBLIC WELFARE

#### Application for Mothers' Aid from Mothers' Aid Fund of North Carolina

CASE No.----- { STATE-----  
COUNTY No. 3

Name of County Supt. of Welfare-----

Surname: *Rockwell*. Date: *April 15, 1924*.

1. Address, city, town, street number, R. F. D.: *Oak City, R. F. D. 1 (About ten miles northeast, near L. L. Branch).*
2. Mother's name: *Lizzie McRae Rockwell*. Date of birth: *June 28, 1885*. Birthplace: *Person County*. Religion: *Methodist*.
3. Husband's full name: *William Hardison Rockwell*. Date of birth: *June 27, 1888*. Birthplace: *Person County*. Religion: *Presbyterian*. Occupation: *Farmer*. Name other organizations he belonged to: *Tobacco Cooperative Association*.
4. Is he dead, imprisoned, disabled, or deserting? *Dead*. Cause: *Bronchial asthma*. Place: *Oak City, R. F. D. 1*. Date: *Feb. 15, 1924*. Is he an ex-service man?----- With what organization?-----  
Verified how?-----
5. Date and place of marriage: *Sept. 20, 1914; Oak City, R. F. D. 1*. Verified how? *Register of Deeds Office, Person County*.
6. Date and place of any previous marriage:----- Verified how?-----  
Termination:----- Cause:-----
7. Is man living, where?----- Verified how?-----
8. Length of mother's residence in county: *Life*. In State: *Life*.
9. Children under 14; where they are, and why:

Name	Date of Birth	School	Grade	Defects
<i>Willie, Jr.</i> -----	<i>Apr. 8, 1916</i>	<i>Laurel</i> -----	<i>2</i>	<i>Ruptured</i>
<i>James Byrd</i> -----	<i>Mar. 1, 1918</i>	<i>Laurel</i> -----	<i>1</i>	<i>Normal</i>
<i>Pearl</i> -----	<i>Apr. 14, 1920</i>	-----	-----	<i>Bad tonsils</i>
<i>Bell</i> -----	<i>Nov. 16, 1921</i>	-----	-----	<i>Healthy</i>
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

#### 10. Children above fourteen (if not living at home, state where and why):

Name	Age	Employer	Address	Weekly Wages	Contribution to Family Expenses
<i>None</i> -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----



## 11. Others in household:

Name	Age	Relationship	Income	Contribution to Family Expenses
Garland McRae.....	18	Nephew.....	Works on farm in	busy season.

12. Mother's occupation: *Farming and housekeeping.* At home? *Yes.* Weekly earnings, \$ *See No. 13.*  
 Number days and hours away from home:..... How are children cared for in absence?  
 ..... Employer's name and address:.....

## 13. IMPORTANT—Answer as fully as possible:

Average Income Covering Six Months Period	Paid to Mother	Amount of Income Monthly	Expenditures of Family for the Month of Application	Amount
Names and ages of children working			Taxes, insurance, <i>Interest</i> .....	\$ 1.50
(1).....	\$.....	\$.....	Food.....	14.50
(2).....			Medicine and doctor.....	1.00
(3).....			Fuel and light ( <i>kerosene</i> ).....	1.00
(4) <i>Garden, milk, butter</i> .....		10.00	Clothes—repairs.....	5.00
Received from relatives: <i>\$10.00 cash</i> .....		1.63	Shoes—repairs.....	3.50
Mother's earnings: <i>20 bu. corn, \$22.00, and 300 lbs. meat, \$75.00</i> .....		16.17	Recreation.....	
Other sources: <i>Irregular assistance from relatives and friends in food and clothing</i> .....			Stock Feed.....	8.00
			Miscellaneous: <i>Books, etc.</i> .....	2.75
Total.....		27.80	Total.....	37.25

Amount requested from county and State for family to live respectably, \$20.00.

14. Liabilities, mortgages, nature, creditors, addresses: *Mortgage, \$200.00 on home. House unfinished, walled in, no partitions. Well to be dug; rocks on the ground.*
15. Property, real estate, business equipment, loan or cash value of insurance, money, food, clothing on hand: *One mule, one cow, 25 hens, 4 turkeys, 1 small pig, small farm equipment, household furnishings, wagon and buggy.*
16. Number of rooms, and condition as to safety and sanitation: *5 rooms when divided.* Number beds, 4. Is kitchen equipment adequate? *Yes; good stove.*
17. Church and Sunday School attended by children: *Sapling Ridge.*
18. Mother: Education—*About sixth grade education. Industrious, resourceful, ambitious, determined to make the best of a poor situation. Any training other than school work? No definite training, but knowledge of sewing, embroidering, quilting, preserving, cooking. Business ability (illustrate): Sells chickens, eggs, sews, and keeps her accounts. Hopes to develop turkey raising into an industry. Evidences of culture and attractiveness in home (rugs, curtains, pictures, magazines, etc.): Curtains, rugs, counterpanes, etc., made by mother; pictures and magazines in evidence. Health: Fairly good health except that teeth need attention; worried over responsibilities. Physical examination: Needed? Yes; Given? Arranged for next month.*
19. History of family: (1) Explain how lack of adequate income has been met heretofore. (2) Former occupations of woman. (3) Children removed, when, why, how long. (4) Juvenile court records, etc. (5) Former addresses of family, landlords, and dates of leaving: (1) *Relatives and friends provided for family since husband's death.* (2) *None.* (3) *None.* (4) *None.* (5) *From date of marriage until 1923 family lived as tenants on S. K. Eckard's farm about one mile north of present address. One year ago Mr. Rockwell's father gave him 30 acres of half-cleared land on which the present home was started.*
20. Immediate plans for family if aid is granted: *To help mother develop turkey business and become self-supporting. To enable her to pay off mortgage on home and finish her house and well. To help mother make arrangements with a dentist for treatment; to have Pearl examined thoroughly and her tonsils removed, if necessary; have Dr. Wells see Willie again.*

21. Collateral references: (1) Married children. (2) Near relatives. (3) Pastor, physician, school and Sunday-school teachers, former employers. (4) Present and former neighbors.  
(Check References Interviewed and Attach Reports)

Name	Address	Relation to Family
A. T. McRae.....	Oak City, R. 2.....	Brother
W. F. Rockwell.....	Oak City, R. 1.....	Father-in-law
Robert Rockwell.....	Oak City, R. 1.....	Brother-in-law
L. L. Branch.....	Oak City, R. 1.....	Neighbor and friend
T. H. Kelly.....	Oak City, R. 1.....	Neighbor
Dr. B. F. Wells.....	Oak City.....	Physician

22. The above is correct, according to my knowledge and belief.

MRS. LIZZIE ROCKWELL  
(Mothers Signature)

(SEAL)

Notary Public.

### RECOMMENDATION

23. The County Board of Welfare, having inquired into conditions and circumstances of Mrs. Lizzie McRae Rockwell, an applicant for Mother's Aid, do recommend that she be granted aid to the amount of \$20.00 per month from County and State.

(Signed) MRS. MAY ELLINGTON  
JAMES CHURCH  
F. R. BURRELL

Date: May 5, 1924

24. Approved by County Commissioners for \$10.00, May 5, 1924.

Chairman.

25. Approved by State Board of Charities and Public Welfare to the amount of \$10.00 on.....  
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Director, Mother's Aid.

### HISTORY SHEET

(To accompany application blank)

RE: MRS. LIZZIE McRAE ROCKWELL

**April 4, 1924.** The register of deeds of Person County reported to the superintendent of welfare in April that he believed Mrs. Rockwell should have Mothers' Aid under the new law, passed by the 1923 Legislature.

The superintendent immediately began investigations. (This history, with the application blank, brings the case up to the present.)

### Family History

The Rockwells are ambitious and intelligent farm people. When William Hardison Rockwell died the family was in a fair way to rise out of the tenant class into the owner class.

Husband's father, who owns farm of about 200 acres, offered each of his three sons 30 acres if they would settle and build. They were to pay the taxes. William accepted this offer about a year ago, built the frame of his house, a satisfactory barn, and had partially dug a well, when he died. These improvements were made with money he had saved during the years he was a tenant farmer. He had asthma most of his life. This reached a bronchial stage in February, which caused his death February 15th.

Neighbors hauled sufficient rock to wall up the well and have been trying to find some one to do the work which will cost about \$25.

There is a \$200 mortgage on the house which Mrs. Rockwell expects to pay when she is able.

### **Environment, Housing and Neighborhood**

The Rockwells live at Oak City, R. 1, in a fairly prosperous section of Person County. Most of the farm homes are painted and apparently comfortable.

The house stands on a hill at the edge of a wood about one and a half miles from the nearest main road. The nearest neighbors are a quarter of a mile away in opposite directions. The house itself, when finished, will be convenient and unusually compact for a farm dwelling. The outside walls, the roof and flooring are in place. The living room is ceiled and Mrs. Rockwell expects to get the others ceiled as soon as possible. She has sufficient furniture to be comfortable. Everything was clean and in good condition at the time of visit.

Mrs. Rockwell has planted roses around the porch and has set out a number of other plants.

### **Health**

Mrs. R.'s health is good in spite of decayed teeth. She expects to have them looked after next month.

Willie, Jr., lost a month of school because of sickness. He was ruptured when quite small. Has worn a truss about two years. Recently he took it off to go in swimming, forgot to replace it, and his mother knew nothing of it until he complained. She will take him to Dr. Wells when she goes to town. Willie is a bright, attractive brunette.

James Byrd is apparently well and strong. A bit shy, but very quick mentally. He is a blond.

Pearlie, almost an albino, looks well, but is nervous, excitable, hard to manage. She has bad tonsils, which will be looked after.

Belle, the baby, is a golden-haired, blue-eyed cherub.

### **Children's Education**

Willie and James attend Laurel School, two miles away. They like their school and do good work. Will probably be promoted. Mrs. Rockwell is ambitious for her children. She and her husband planned to buy a Ford when the girls were big enough to go to school so they would not have to walk in bad weather.

### **Church Connections**

The family attends Sapling Ridge Methodist Church, two miles away. There is Sunday School every Sunday and preaching once a month.

### **Relatives and Friends**

Mrs. R. has two sisters and one brother, all married, with families, living in Person County, though not right near. One sister has ten children. While they cannot give financial help, they are interested and sympathetic.

Mr. Rockwell, Sr., lives in sight. He and Robert Rockwell are of great help in carrying on the work of the farm.

The people in the neighborhood are much interested in the family. (See collateral references.)

### **Recreation**

The community is rural. Recreation in the sense of clubs and organized play activities is practically nil. The Rockwells, as other families in the community, go to church, where they get together socially, spend the day at

each other's houses, go fishing, have quilting parties, and do whatever the neighborhood does by way of social activities.

### Mother's Plans

Mrs. R. has been accustomed to farm work all of her life. She is industrious in the field and in her house. This year she expects to work about ten acres of land. Three in cotton, three or four in wheat, the rest in corn. She also plans to have a garden, as usual, and raise vegetables for summer use and for canning. She will put up a supply of fruit for the winter.

Mrs. R. has arranged with her 18-year-old nephew to do the plowing for her. He has rented ten acres himself from L. L. Branch, whose farm adjoins. This boy will continue to live at Mrs. R.'s until fall. Mrs. R. will help him with his crops in return for the work he does for her.

Besides 25 hens, Mrs. R. has a good many little chicks, and expects to raise more. She also plans to raise more turkeys. She hopes eventually to be able to make her living with her turkeys and chickens and not have to do heavy farm work.

She would like, also, to do sewing, especially children's clothes, in the winter months. It is hard, however, to get a market, as she is quite a distance from a town.

### Family Budget

Like most country women, Mrs. R. has never kept account of her income or her expenses. She grows most of the things she needs on the farm and so has little cash to handle. When she goes to town on her occasional trips she buys remnants of cotton and wool material which she gradually works up into clothes for the children.

She figured roughly that she needs around \$10 a month cash for food alone.

Flour .....	\$3.50
Molasses .....	1.00
Sugar .....	2.00
Coffee .....	1.20
Other food .....	1.80
Kerosene .....	.50
	<hr/>
	\$10.00

Mrs. R. uses about ten bushels of corn each month for her stock. When the twenty bushels she has are used up she will have to buy at the rate of \$1.20 per bushel. She has meat enough to last through the summer. She has bought ten sacks of guano, and has spent \$20 since Christmas for the family's clothes.

Taxes amount to about \$6 a year and, in addition, there is a small amount of interest on her mortgage.

Taking all things into consideration, this seems to be an excellent case for Mothers' Aid. Most of the supervision needed will be directed toward helping Mrs. Rockwell develop her poultry and turkey business. If this can be done probably two or three years help will see her self-supporting.

### Collateral References

**April 15, 1924.** Interviewed Mr. P. H. Kelly, Oak City, R. 1, who has known the Rockwell family all his life. He believes that Mrs. R. is a fine woman and mother. She is noted throughout the community for her industry and good housekeeping. It would be impossible for any one in the neighborhood to bring any charges against her.



**April 15, 1924.** Interviewed Mr. L. L. Branch, neighbor and friend. Mr. Branch reported the case originally to the register of deeds. He is a justice of the peace and married Mr. and Mrs. Rockwell at his own home. He is much interested in the family and believes it will be much better for Mrs. Rockwell to have aid and keep her children with her than to put them in an institution.

**April 20, 1924.** Interviewed Dr. B. F. Wells, family physician, who lives at Oak City. He has known the Rockwell family since the birth of the first child. Thinks Mrs. R. is in good physical condition, but is at present rather run down because of extra work during her husband's illness. He believes that financial help will relieve her of some of the responsibilities she feels now.

Dr. Wells has treated Willie for rupture and put the truss on him. He has never been called in to treat any of the children except Willie and Pearl. She had colitis when little, and has not been strong like the other children.

### RUNNING HISTORY IN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

**April 4, 1924.** Mr. Job, register of deeds, asked superintendent, who was in Oak City on business, if Mrs. Rockwell, a widow with four children, would be eligible for Mothers' Aid. Told him that it would be necessary for superintendent to visit the home and make out the application. Investigation might prove her eligible. Mr. Job directed superintendent to Mrs. R.'s home.

**April 15, 1924.** Visited Mrs. Rockwell. Filled out application. Talked with neighbors. Verified the marriage at the courthouse.

**April 29, 1924.** Met with board of welfare and presented Mrs. R.'s application and the history of the family in typewritten form. Two members of the board knew Mrs. R. personally and considered her a good subject for Mothers' Aid.

Board signed application asking for \$20 a month from county and State.

**May 5, 1924.** Presented signed application to county commissioners at their regular meeting. They approved the \$20 grant.

**May 6, 1924.** Application blank in duplicate and one copy of history sheet sent to the State Director of Mothers' Aid.

**May 15, 1924.** Letter from State Director enclosing approved application for county file.

**May 22, 1924.** Showed approved application to county treasurer, secured check for \$20, and took it to Mrs. Rockwell.

**June 1, 1924.** Letter from Mrs. R. saying she had not received June check.

Talked with county treasurer over the phone. Asked him to see that checks were mailed regularly when other county bills were paid.

**July 17, 1924.** Visited Mrs. R. with State Director and the representative of the Laura Spelman Memorial Fund. The crops were in good condition. Mrs. Rockwell was much improved in appearance, children healthy. Visitors took several pictures of the older children. Belle was asleep. Promised to send mother copy of the pictures.

The family was living in Mrs. R.'s bedroom and kitchen. Boys sleep in the unfinished part of the house.

Went over Mrs. R.'s expense account for June. As she did not have to buy much food—her garden bringing in plenty—no shoes, or animal feed, she had



been able to get material to make some dresses for the girls and shirts for the boys; also, to get a few jars and new rubbers for her canning and preserving. She had paid \$10 on her original bill of \$35 for lumber to ceil her house.

INCOME	EXPENDITURES
Mothers' Aid check..... \$20.00	Food (sugar for canning)..... \$4.00
Sale of eggs..... 2.50	Clothing (remnants for chn.).... 4.60
Blackberries ..... .70	Ladies Home Journal..... .15
<hr/>	Glass jars and rubbers..... 3.20
\$23.20	Soap, starch, scrub brush..... 1.25
	On lumber bill..... 10.00
	<hr/>
	\$23.20

**August 14, 1924.** Made friendly visit at the home. Mrs. R. said the rainy weather had "fouled" her crops to some extent, and had drowned most of her little turkeys. She expected a good cotton crop and had planted early to beat the boll weevil.

She displayed with much pride little smocks and bloomers she had made for the children.

**September 17, 1924.** Visited at the home. Mrs. R. wanted help in selling her turkeys. Advised her to try to market them in Oak City, as the Durham market did not seem very good.

James Byrd was sitting on the steps reading the bulletin from the State Board of Health, which had been coming since Mrs. R. was put on the Mothers' Aid list.

Mother had saved \$25 out of her checks for the past three months to pay for finishing the well. Water excellent. Inspected account book.

**November 11, 1924.** Visited at the home. Found Mrs. R. and the two little girls picking cotton. She expected to make about a bale and a half. Had already picked about four bales all together for herself and neighbors and relatives. One of her fields, already picked, had been plowed up again, sowed in oats and rye for her chickens. Two boys were in school.

**December 11, 1924.** Visited home to take Christmas presents to the family, from the Woman's Club of Oak City. Mrs. R. was much pleased. Asked that they be hidden in the barn that the children might be surprised on Christmas.

Mrs. R.'s nephew had gone to High Point to work in a furniture factory. While he had been much help, Mrs. R. said he was a "tremendous eater."

She reported that she had sold ten turkeys recently for twenty-two cents a pound. Was not able to get to town with them until the market was crowded. Promised to help her more next year.

**February 10, 1925.** Visited at the home. Because of bad weather in January, it was impossible to get over the roads to Mrs. R.'s house. Found the family at home, the children around the fire making Valentines. All had been well except for bad colds. They were longing for spring so they could get out again. Left a number of magazines for the children.

**March 26, 1925.** Visited at the home. In the interim between the last visit Mrs. R.'s neighbors had helped her ceil the house—at least, two additional rooms. It was much more comfortable. She had finished paying for the lumber with some of the money she got from her cotton.

**April 20, 1925.** Visited at the home. Found school closed for the term. The boys had finished the third grade. Mrs. R.'s feet had been giving her some trouble and Dr. Wells had ordered arch supporters.

**June 1, 1925.** Mrs. R. got a neighbor to bring her to town to superintendent's office. Took her to Dr. Giles, dentist. Had previously made appointment and he had offered to do the work on Mrs. R.'s teeth for the cost of material alone.

Late in the afternoon she came back to the office and left word that she had two teeth removed and several filled.

**July 15, 1925.** Visited the home. Because of Public Welfare Institute, it was not possible to do any visiting for some time. Mrs. R. was expecting to make two bales of cotton, fruit and berries had been so scarce that she had not been able to do much canning and preserving. She was helping her father-in-law with chopping and picking and he was doing her plowing.

Her cow was giving an abundance of milk and she had sold the nine-weeks-old calf a few weeks before for \$10.

Her garden had been fair, but dried up early. She again had some young turkeys and expected to have about seven gobblers and eight hens for sale in the fall. Hoped to get a better price than last Christmas. Told Mrs. R. that State appropriation for Mothers' Aid had been cut one-third and that she would be notified as to the amount she would receive each month in the future.

**August 3, 1925.** At a meeting of the county commissioners. Mrs. Rockwell's grant was cut from \$20 to \$15 a month. Wrote Mrs. R. to this effect, also a letter to State Department.

**August 9, 1925.** Mrs. Adams, newly appointed member of the welfare board, told superintendent she was trying to help Mrs. R. find some sewing in Oak City.

**September 10, 1925.** Visited at the home. Mrs. R. was hoping to hear from Mrs. Adams about some sewing. Said her turkeys were getting along very well. She hoped the superintendent would help her market them.

**September 11, 1925.** Interviewed cafeteria manager in regard to buying turkeys. Said they got theirs ready dressed and besides that wanted large birds. As Mrs. R.'s were small, the cafeteria people suggested selling them in private homes.

**October 19, 1925.** Wrote Mrs. R. that eight would-be purchasers had been found for her turkeys at thirty-five cents a pound.

**October 22, 1925.** Letter from Mrs. R. expressing thanks at the prospect of turkey sales. Three children were in school and doing well. Belle had just entered.

Her father-in-law would make the crates to carry the turkeys to town.

**November 1, 1925.** Wrote Mrs. R. sending names of five additional purchasers and asked that she have turkeys ready on the 19th, when superintendent and State Director would come down after them.

Looked over expense account for previous month. Although Mrs. R.'s grant has been cut to \$15, she managed to sell enough eggs, etc., to bring in \$20.10. As the children had to begin school, most of the money had to go for things

they need and nothing was left over for the mortgage, which she hopes to pay off from her sale of turkeys.

INCOME		EXPENDITURES	
Mothers' Aid.....	\$15.00	Food, flour, meal, molasses.....	\$7.45
Eggs .....	2.50	Shoes—Willie .....	3.00
Chickens .....	.50	Sweater—James .....	4.25
Sausage .....	1.60	Tablets, books, pencils.....	5.30
Sewing child's dress.....	.50		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$20.10		\$20.00

**November 19, 1925.** Drove to the home for the turkeys. Had dinner—a good country dinner with Mrs. R., the two little girls and Miss McRae, a niece of Mrs. R. Then went to the barn. The turkeys had been shut up for a week and fattened. Weighed each bird and put them in crates fastened on the side of the car. They varied from eight to sixteen pounds.

Mrs. R. said that she had finished picking her own cotton and quite a lot for her father-in-law. The little boys had been helpful even though they are still small.

Promised to send her a check as soon as the birds were sold. Left some magazines.

Stopped at the school to see the two boys. Mrs. R. had said they would be very much disappointed at missing the visitors.

**November 30, 1925.** Wrote Mrs. R. enclosing check for \$51.60 for turkeys. Also enclosed copies of kodak pictures that had been made that day.

**December 19, 1925.** Visited at the home and returned the crates. Left a box of Christmas things provided by the Episcopal Sunday School. Mrs. R. had received her check for the birds and had immediately used it as payment on her \$200 mortgage.

Showed superintendent bulletin on Turkey Raising the State Department had sent her. Said it had many good ideas in it she hoped to use.

This leaves only \$50 to be paid before the house will be unencumbered. In addition to the money from turkeys, she had put \$50 on it from the sale of her cotton.

It is hoped that by July, when Mothers' Aid appropriation for the new year will be made, that Mrs. R. will be out of debt and able to "carry on" without financial assistance.

**SUMMARIES OF ACTUAL CASES SHOWING DIFFERENT TYPES OF CONSTRUCTIVE WORK****(Health)**

Mrs. Greene is now keeping house with her sister, who looks after the children while Mrs. Green works in Liggett & Myers Tobacco Factory. The children are well and strong. The mother, optimistic and ambitious, is proud that she can support herself and children.

Three years ago she was deserted with three children and an unborn baby. She scattered her children with relatives and only called for help at her confinement. As the county has many agencies working together, arrangements were made for her in a local hospital. As her health was bad after the birth of the baby and the two children were in homes that were already crowded, it seemed wise to relieve the mother of all responsibility for a few months in order that she might reestablish her home later. The children were placed in the Detention Home where they were given medical attention and the best of care. The mother stayed with an uncle until she was able to work. She then got a job in Liggett & Myers, rented a little room, bought herself an oil stove on credit, and began to save a little each week for the time when she could have her children with her.

In the meantime, efforts were continued to locate the husband. At the end of twelve months he was still unfound and Mrs. Green was put on the Mothers' Aid list. Her first check for \$35 was used to add to her savings to buy needed furniture. The Welfare Department contributed some things from other sources. The children, well and stronger than ever, were restored to a mother proud and well and the home was more firmly reestablished. For one year the checks for \$35 continued to go to her and then the mother said she could do without them, as she was making between \$60 and \$70 a month. The case was discontinued.

**(Part-Time Work)**

Mrs. House is now living in her own home (half paid for), is running a small hot lunch counter in the consolidated school in her village, clearing \$3 or \$4 a week extra. With the little she can earn sewing at home and with the \$20 a month she receives from Mothers' Aid she is well on the way to independence. Her lunch business is only a month old. Her health is much better and all the children are well nourished.

In January, 1924, when Mrs. House was put on the list she was living in three rooms of an old house, barely able to stand up. The walls were dark and the windows few. She was trying to sew in the bad light and make a living for herself and children. With the \$200 insurance left by her husband and constant help and supervision of the superintendent of welfare and the home demonstration agent, she has reached her present place. By the time her house is paid for at the rate of \$6.50 per month she will be independent.

**(Education)**

Joe, the oldest boy in this family, is a freshman in college, where he is making his expenses with the help of money saved last summer. His record as a student and as a boy is splendid.

The fifteen-year-old girl, Alice, is taking a business course and eighth grade work. She hopes to support herself during the summer.

The twelve-year-old boy makes enough selling papers out of school hours to clothe himself. The seven and five-year-olds are dependent. The mother with the help of \$17.80 which she receives from Mothers' Aid, and what she makes on transient roomers and a little sewing manages to keep her home



together. Joe will work during the summer and help his mother, so will Alice. During the winter they hope to continue at school.

Mrs. James received \$40 Mothers' Aid from May, 1924, until June, 1925. Then because of the cut in the appropriation and because Joe had saved a little money to go to school and was sixteen, the natural reaction was to take her off the list and throw the support of the family on the boy, depriving him of the higher education he is mentally able to take to good advantage. Finally the county decided to continue the case, and it is hoped they will keep the aid going at least for another year.

#### (Housing)

Mrs. Doe is now living on the edge of town in a two-room house, "nice comfortable rooms." She has recently bought another bed, additional bedding, a new stove, and will soon finish paying for her cow, which gives plenty of milk for the family and leaves some to sell. Dahlia (who was seemingly so backward) has been fitted with glasses and is already showing improvement. The three oldest children are in school. Mrs. Doe makes four or five dollars a week mending hosiery from the nearby mill.

In December, 1923, when Mrs. Doe was put on the Mother's Aid list she was living in a tiny shack about 14 x 16 on the side of a mountain. Her nearest neighbor—a cousin—out of sight over the top. Her husband had been in the insane asylum for two years and neighbors and relatives had helped her out. Her baby was born after the husband went to the hospital following an attack of flu and pneumonia. She was brave and determined to keep her children with her. Though ignorant herself, she was anxious that her children should have a chance. The little cabin was spotless and as conveniently arranged as she could make it.

The present condition of the family and the mother is receiving only \$10 a month, is due not only to the money they have been receiving, but to the constant supervision of the superintendent and the interest and determination of the mother.

#### (Health)

Mrs. Jones lives in a rural county. She is at home with her children, health much improved, keeping house and teaching a few music pupils. She is still receiving Mothers' Aid and will for some time to come. Her sixteen-year-old son works but makes barely enough to cover his own needs. The four younger children, the baby five years old, are still dependent.

When this case was first presented, Mrs. Jones was suspected of having tuberculosis and the application was held up until a physical examination could be made. It was explained to the superintendent that if the examination showed the mother should have sanatorium treatment, then the application would have to be held up until the tuberculosis could be arrested. The examination came in negative, but the doctor suggested several months rest. This was explained to the mother and her family. A sister who had only two children offered to have Mrs. Jones close up her house for two months and live with her. She agreed to see that she rested morning and afternoon and had plenty of nourishing food. The case was put on the Mothers' Aid list immediately for \$30.

#### (Remarriage)

Mrs. Duo is now keeping house for her husband and four children in a neat little home in an eastern city. Mr. Duo is an honest, sober and industrious citizen. His business is truck driving for a big firm at \$30 a week.

If you were to ask Mrs. Duo where she lived four years ago she'd tell you she was a widow, left with nothing in the world but her children—living in



a tenant home. It was bare of most of the necessities and mother and children were undernourished. The superintendent of welfare found her and made out her application for Mothers' Aid. This \$20 a month that she could count on enabled her to rent a tiny house in the village and keep her children in school. The superintendent also put her in touch with the health officer and county nurse, who advised her about the children's food. Gradually they all improved, looked better, dressed better, and when Mr. Duo came to the village to do some special work on a road contract he was attracted to her and before long they were married.

The oldest girl came back to her home county for a visit not long ago and called on the superintendent to thank him for his help.

## VI. RECORDS

Every welfare office, regardless of its size and the value of business, should keep:

1. A general folder, marked "Mothers' Aid," for letters on policy, information, etc.

2. A bill folder to keep correspondence in regard to vouchers and list of families paid each month.

3. A folder for fresh blanks, etc.

4. Individual folders for pending, active and canceled cases. Each case folder should contain application blank, history sheet, health record cards, statements from references, running history, letters and expense accounts, school reports and health records of the individual children, pictures—everything relating to the individual case. Whether the case is active, pending, withdrawn, or canceled should be indicated on the card in the card index.

(See sample Application Blank.)

### WORK FOR MOTHERS

A mother left with the entire responsibility of a family of small children cannot perform her highest service in caring for and training them if she has to be away from them eight or ten hours a day in order to make money to buy their food. Mothers' Aid in such case should be sufficient to meet the financial needs and to enable the mother to stay at home.

#### Home Work

A small percentage of mothers can do whole-time work away from home, if there is an older woman in the home or in the same house who will look after the children. The plan, though, is generally unsatisfactory as the hours are too long for a woman to work and then come home and cook, wash, and sew for her family. Efforts should always be made to work out some plan by which the mother can do part-time work outside, or find work she can do in the home, which will bring in money. Outside interests broaden the mother's contacts and sustain her self-respect. She is not over-taxing her strength and at the same time she is doing work she likes which benefits herself and her children. *Three* whole days away from home, if children are well cared for, or *five hours a day each day*, is permissible. The county superintendent should know conditions surrounding the mothers who are working outside, whether the work rooms are well lighted and heated and the mother in good health.

### Part Time

Below are some types of work possible on a part-time basis. Stars indicate work done by mothers on the State list.

#### DOMESTIC

- \*Housecleaning by the day.
- \*Sewing by the day.
- Washing by the day.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- \*Janitor.
- \*Canvassing.
- \*Serving hot lunches in schools.

#### HOTEL OR BUSINESS

- \*Counter girl in cafeteria.
- \*Linen room.
- News stand.
- Information desk.
- Public stenographer.
- \*Office girl.

(Under canvassing is suggested magazine subscriptions, getting mail orders for Larkin goods, selling soap, etc.)

The superintendent of welfare, who is in touch with local conditions, will be able to suggest other things and put the mother in touch with them.

The field of remunerative work that can be done in the home is much larger. The following list is suggestive. Some of the jobs are seasonal, some sectional. Others depend on the energy of the mothers and local conditions. Some depend on market conditions.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| *Boarding children.   | *Music lessons.                           |
| *Bee and honey.   | Millinery (cleaning and dying).           |
| Basket making.  | *Pigs.                                    |
| *Bulbs.   | Patch and repair work for business women. |
| *Chickens and eggs.   | *Quilting.                                |
| *Cakes, pies, sandwiches (sold on special days in schools, offices, drug stores, etc.). | *Strawberry picking.                      |
| Canning, preserving, pickling.  | Smocks.                                   |
| *Crates (for berries).  | *Turkey raising.                          |
| *Christmas greens.  | Tomato growing.                           |
| *Children's clothes.  | Trucking.                                 |
| Dolls.  | Weaving.                                  |
| *Dried fruits.  | *Washing towels for barber shop.          |
| *Embroidery.  | *Washing for family.                      |
| *Flowers (fresh or artificial).   | Washing undertakers gloves.               |
| Herbs.  | *Washing for hotel in small town.         |

### Christmas Greens

Everywhere protest is being made against the careless destruction of our holly, trailing cedar, mistletoe, galax, spruce and pine. The constant decrease is running the prices up higher each year. Any mother who owns land where any of these evergreens grow has a business right at her door which she can develop into a permanent industry of real value with a little care. Instead of ruthlessly destroying the trees she can cut properly and preserve her source of income. "Holly should be cut with a sharp ax, toward the tips of the branches, and not more than twenty-five per cent of the leaf surface should be taken each year."

### Boarding Homes

Boarding children, dependent children needing care at the hands of the superintendent of welfare, is one way a few mothers are making extra money. It is essential that the superintendent know the mother, and also the child he wants to place. No risk must be run of carrying contagious disease, or delinquent tendencies into a normal home. Well managed Mothers' Aid boarding homes could help solve the problem of temporary care of children in several counties.

### Motor

If the mother takes in washing (and lives in town) she should have an electric washing machine, even if she has to buy it on the installment plan.

If she does sewing, her room should be well lighted and, if possible, she should have an electric motor for her machine.

### INDIVIDUALIZING MOTHERS' AID

The greatest opportunity open to counties doing Mothers' Aid work is to individualize the work in their counties. This is an age of standardization. Standards should serve only as foundations, the best work is that which goes beyond standards.

Few homes investigated for aid will perhaps come up even to the minimum standards suggested under "Grants for Mothers," but every home should approximate them at least before the family has been on the list a year.

The State Department sends each mother on the list a letter as soon as her case is approved, calling attention to the fact that she has been found worthy and explaining her responsibility in the contract. The State office gives the name of each mother to the State Board of Health that the mother may get the Health Bulletin. On different occasions bulletins on health, gardening, poultry, nutrition, etc., have been sent also.

How well and rapidly the work is done will depend largely on how understandingly and successfully the county superintendent has surveyed his field and generated the social forces at his command.

It is impossible to take up each county in detail and tell what each has done. While some have been careless about the details of the work we have no convincing evidence that all mothers and children aided have not benefited by this fund. Naturally, the more urban counties offer more agencies that can help supply all the needs of a normal family, but rural counties frequently have unsuspected agencies for help if they will only discover them and ask their coöperation.

Buncombe County ties up its Mothers' Aid work with the juvenile court work. The law provides for such coördination, and Asheville, with its well organized juvenile court, is in a position to set the fashion. "The best way to keep the child out of court is to keep the mother in the home."



Forsyth County, having thirteen mothers on the active list and three former recipients of aid, organized a Mothers' Aid Club in October, 1924. This club has been fostered by the Woman's Club and Rotary Club. The Associated Charities, Salvation Army, Y. W. C. A., and other organizations have helped make it a success. The home demonstration agent has met with the club and been of greatest assistance in demonstrating wholesome and attractive foods. One of the city papers sends a free subscription to each mother.

Guilford County has taken advantage of its tubercular sanatorium with great benefit. In two cases in that county the men of the family with active tuberculosis were placed in the county institution—the wife in one case, the mother in the other, put on the Mothers' Aid list. In one of these families the husband is now self-supporting and the family off the list. In the other, the eighteen-year-old boy, an arrested case, is at home doing light work, but not able yet to assume the entire support of his mother and little sisters.

All counties with whole-time health officers and nurses get physical examinations made before they send in their applications and then have defects attended to as quickly as possible.

In Ashe, Haywood and Person counties the Mothers' Aid work is done by the board of welfare. In Ashe and Person one member serves as field agent. In Person a committee from the Woman's Club works with the part-time probation officer.

In Warren County, where there is no welfare officer, the social worker from the mills makes the investigations and does the visiting at the request of the county board of welfare and commissioners.

Avery's work is done by the judge of the juvenile court.

Alleghany, Bertie, Bladen, Caswell, Chowan, Clay, Dare, Graham, Hertford, Lincoln, Madison, Northampton, Pender, and Scotland "carry on" through the superintendents of schools.

Gaston County is keeping a mother on the list that the seventeen-year-old son, an ambitious boy, may take a college course—for which he has saved up the money.

Johnston County, with the aid of the home demonstration agent, is helping a mother to run the school lunch room as a start toward independence. Every mother in the county receives all the latest household bulletins supplied by the Department of Agriculture.

In only a few counties are the superintendents asking the mothers to keep accurate records of income and expenditure and going over the accounts with them. It is hoped that more and more this very important bit of work will be developed.

Mecklenburg, Robeson and Durham each has a Negro mother on its list. These mothers come up to the standards of mothers in the State as a whole and are doing their part in training their children.

Many superintendents correspond with and visit other counties in an effort to get and give new ideas. This policy is a great help in improving the work all over the State, and it is hoped it will grow into a custom.

In no county has the work been as thoroughly organized—that is, all the helpful social forces brought to focus—as will be done later. The growing demands of the work will gradually prove the necessity of bringing all the social resources of the county to focus through the welfare officer.

### VACATIONS

No class of women work as long hours and with as little outside interests as mothers, and yet no class ever gets so little vacation. It is hoped that some county may get interested in this phase of the work and make some plans by which the Mothers' Aid mothers may get at least one week's vacation a year. The children might be sent to relatives or friends, girls' and boys' camps, together or separately, and the mother go on some little trip, or she may prefer to stay quietly at home and do as she pleases. Mothers and children would all be better off for some such arrangement.

Women's organizations of various kinds might be interested in this field of work and try out some plans.

## VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Though the people of the State, as evidenced by their legislative vote, wanted Mothers' Aid, their ideas about it were very vague. To many it was synonymous with "poor relief." Others thought it applied to old women deserted by their grown children. Many had an idea that any woman, regardless of her character, whose husband had run away for a short time or who was in jail for thirty days or on a chain-gang, should immediately be handed out sufficient cash to squander as she pleased. To get over to the public, even the intelligent public, the ideas of definite, constructive work set forth in this little handbook takes time and patience. Unless Mothers' Aid is granted only after careful and thorough study of the family and its needs and that family aided in a friendly manner to solve its problems on the way to independent living then the fund should be revoked. Enough can be done under the old style "out-door poor relief" to increase pauperism.

### July, 1923, to July, 1924

Because Mothers' Aid was new and the machinery had to be set up only 188 cases were approved during the fiscal year, July, 1923-24, and \$10,419.66 used of the \$50,000 available from the State alone.

These figures do not state the facts. Of the sixty-seven counties administering Mothers' Aid, eleven were using all of their quotas, and, in addition, calling on civic organizations and churches to carry other families that were eligible. One county was aiding thirty eligible mothers in the same manner as it was its Mothers' Aid mothers, but not on county and State funds. Another county had a waiting list of fifteen. Still others had from one to ten mothers they wanted to put on the list.

Again the mere figures do not state the facts. Many counties were making smaller grants than the mothers needed and smaller than the superintendent and the State office thought wise. It takes time to prove that "penny wise is often dollar dense."

Still again the figures are misleading. The more progressive counties, with whole-time superintendents of welfare, were the first to take advantage of Mothers' Aid. The others came in slowly. Often it was necessary for the State Director to spend days in a county visiting prospective cases, talking with relatives and county officials, lawyers, etc., to get the work started. Because this one agent from the State office had, in addition to the Mothers' Aid administration work and field work, all the general case work of the State Department and only part-time stenographic help, it was impossible to visit all the counties asking for help within the year.

**July, 1924, to July, 1925**

Between July, 1924, and July, 1925, the work grew surely, though slowly. One hundred and twenty-four new cases received aid to the amount of \$24,710.09 from the State alone, or more than double the first year's work.

The Legislature of 1925 cut the appropriation from \$50,000 to \$30,000 and further reduced that by the five per cent cut to \$28,500. Even though the law was amended so that counties desiring to administer the fund must sign a contract so stating, seventy-six counties signed and the \$28,500 had to be apportioned among them. This cut the appropriations of the counties down to two-thirds of their former grants and necessitated the checking off or reducing of many cases.

**July, 1925, to January, 1926**

In the half year between July, 1925, and January, 1926, only thirty-five new cases have been added and \$11,320.41 used. Only seven counties of the seventy-six who signed agreements have failed to use their quotas. There are six cases pending now. With the addition of these, it is confidently believed that every dollar available will be used except in the few counties that have failed to live up to their contracts and so have kept the appropriations assigned to them from their purpose. These amounts will come back into the Mothers' Aid fund for redistribution in July.

With the interest in the work growing steadily and understandingly, it is believed that all the appropriation available for 1926-27 will be used.

**MOTHERS' AID VOUCHERS**

The law states that the county should pay each mother on the list, each month, the amount approved by county and State. The State is required to reimburse the county quarterly one-half the amount advanced.

*Three Copies.*—The State office mails out to each superintendent of public welfare in counties administering Mothers' Aid *three* copies of the voucher form early in the last month of the quarter. The superintendent's duty is to go over the voucher and see that the names and amounts recorded in the State office correspond with his list, correct mistakes found, see that the blanks are properly signed, and return all *three* copies to the State Department.

As some counties pay bills on the first and some on the last of the month, the vouchers trickle in all during the month. It is requested that the superintendent see that they are signed as soon as the bills are paid and returned promptly to the State office.



## VIII. GRANTS TO MOTHERS

To make Mothers' Aid work the splendid type of Child Welfare it should be, grants must be adequate. "The physical basis of life must be the foundation for all high qualities of the spirit; the grant, therefore, must be such that the mother can give to her children a minimum of adequate nurture whether this means full or partial support."

### Inadequate Grants—

1. *Defeat the purpose of the law.* If the regular monthly aid is so small that the mother continues to overwork and is nervous and irritable, the children, undernourished and wandering the streets, church societies and other agencies still handing out "old clothes and cold vittles," then the county and State are not building up but destroying family life.

2. *Demoralize the family.* If the family is not responsible to the Welfare Department for all funds above what the individuals make, then there is the danger of different members of the family playing their various sources of income against each other and of becoming sophisticated paupers in the end rather than good citizens.

3. *Make constructive work impossible.* Inadequate grants mean undernourishment, over work, which in turn means tuberculosis, anemia, pellagra, etc. The family is broken up, in the end, as effectively as if the children had been removed or allowed to starve.

4. *Lowers local standards of relief.* Rural counties often receive their first ideas of family case work from the Mothers' Aid applications. Unless high standards of assistance, both financial and supervisory, are set, if local boards of welfare, commissioners, etc., are not educated to high standards, then Mothers' Aid is only one of many agencies making paupers. A \$10 grant is not made into \$30 by calling it Mothers' Aid.

5. *Making the appropriation "go as far as possible" is false economy.* All widows have not an equal right to share in Mothers' Aid. The law sees to that. Mothers' Aid is only three years old in North Carolina—still in the experimental stage. Each case should be carefully worked out according to the suggestions given in this handbook and followed closely.

Adequate grants are possible only when "the grant makes up the deficit in the family budget so as to insure wholesome living on a minimum wage." "There is a minimum normal standard of living below which physical and mental health and efficiency cannot be maintained and which should be insured to every family regardless of its former standard of life."

### THE FAMILY BUDGET

No grant can be fairly determined until a careful inventory has been made of the family income and of how far this income fails to provide the minimum standards for normal living. The grant should bridge the difference between these points.

### Income

*Wages.* (Count in wages, or whatever part of wages is paid in by the children.) Boarders or lodgers. Money received from farm produce or home work. Regular help from relatives. Money from "money crop" last year, cotton, corn, tobacco. Other sources.

### Expenditure

*Rent.* Amount needed for rent, either at present place or better one. If in country, give terms on which family rents land—on half shares, croppers, etc.

*Interest, taxes and repairs.* If home is owned, get value, taxes, repairs, interest and other payments. Count these expenses on a monthly basis. The total should not exceed reasonable house rent in the community.

*Insurance.* Members of family insured and amounts. If too excessive family should be advised to reduce.

*Fuel and light.* Find out last year's bill as nearly as possible and divide by twelve. Amount to be allowed will depend on local prices and conditions, also upon arrangement and condition of house. Fifty cents a month is usually sufficient for kerosene in country homes, unless it is also used for cooking.

*Food.* This is one of the most important items on the list. The amount spent is frequently hard to get. If the mother lives in a mill section her bill is usually large and the money goes for quickly prepared rather than nourishing food. She may need very careful help for some time in learning to know and prepare new foods, more inexpensive and at the same time more nourishing. If the mother lives on a farm, has chickens, eggs, milk, butter, vegetables and fruits, then her food bill will be small and will include only such things as flour, meal, tea, cereals, coffee, flavorings, and such things as the farm does not produce. In cases where families are undernourished, special provision for abundance of nourishing food should be made.

*Clothing.* The last year's expenditure for clothing should be known, also the amount of clothing contributed if the family has been receiving aid. (Due allowance should be made for increasing size.) If the family is not sufficiently clad, then an amount above that worked out on the monthly average should be allowed. Whether the mother sews well and buys materials economically is also to be considered. Likewise, whether clothes can be handed down from one child to another.

*Household furnishing and supplies.* The house should be adequately furnished. Much misery is caused by the very absence of *things*. There should be beds enough so that not more than two should have to share one. Chairs enough for the family to sit at the table at once; an easy chair for the mother; bedside rugs; covering, sheets, and pillow cases—sufficient for warmth and cleanliness. A good stove for cooking; sufficient pots, pans and other utensils for cooking. If the house is lacking in the basic essentials for normal living, then the cost of these things should be included in the budget, so much each month to be used to supply these things.

*Incidentals.* The budget should cover family needs and practices, if suitable. In it should be included church contributions, recreation, newspapers, postage, magazines, and small articles needed for the home.

*Health.* The better the family conditions at the time the case is approved, the less need be allowed for health. One dollar a month would probably be sufficient for home remedies. Most counties take care of doctors and hospital bills through local health officers, nurses, clinics.

*Farm and garden.* Garden seed, implements, cost of animal and poultry feed, fertilizer, labor, etc. Usually a year's estimate can be worked out and divided on a monthly basis.

### Summary

The working out of the budget is frequently the first inkling the mother, particularly the country mother, has had of the relation of cash money to the food and other supplies she grows on the farm. The investigation itself is a suggestion to the mother of business methods—of the fact that she is entering into a contract with her county and State in which she must bear her part. No superintendent will insist upon the family's changing nonessentials in family routine for a cut and dried budget. A slow process of education in better methods of spending the family income is usually necessary.

By asking each mother to keep a monthly account in a notebook (see suggested outline), and by going over that account with her on each monthly visit, complimenting, suggesting changes, etc., the mother will gradually take pride in the way she runs her house. By noting foods bought and looking at the children the superintendent can form some ideas as to whether or not they are getting the right foods.

If the roads are bad and distances great, as they are in many counties, the superintendent would find that carrying on a correspondence with some member of the family will keep him in touch with things. It will also mean a great deal to the family to receive letters and occasional magazines or newspapers from the outside world.

Until our county welfare departments have larger personnels, the search for the most hopeful type of mother for our Mothers' Aid work must continue, the mother that needs only financial help to come up to community standards.

When our appropriations shall be large enough for the urban counties to have a worker for Mothers' Aid alone, then mothers requiring more personal help, more education in the minimum standards of normal living, can be approved.

In practically every case that has been withdrawn or canceled the trouble can be traced back to poor material to work on and lack of time on the part of the work, for supervision.

### BUDGETS

No definite work on budgets comparable to that done in New York and Chicago has been done in North Carolina. The standard budget used in computing estimates for household expenses of any normal home is quoted below. These estimates allow for nothing beyond the necessities of life. They deal, however, with city life. As the majority of our cases are rural, and the families have rent free, own farm animals and gardens, and wear the type of clothes current in their communities, a family could live well on less than is suggested here. A study of what the necessities of life actually cost in other states will not come amiss to a superintendent who is interested in doing a genuine piece of work.

### SCHEDULE FOR ESTIMATING FAMILY BUDGETS IN MOTHERS' ASSISTANCE CASES

(Compiled by the Westchester County, New York, Department of Child Welfare; Food Schedule compiled by the New York Nutrition Council.)

*Rent.* Amount paid.

*Fuel.* Coal:

1. For one stove, one-half ton a month. (Amount allowed for.)
2. For second stove, a quarter ton a (coal at the standard rate per ton charged in district) month additional.

*Kindling:* Not to exceed \$1 a month. (From November 1 to May 1 a second stove and kindling allowed. During the remainder of the year only one stove allowed.)

*Light.* Where kerosene is used, \$1 a month. Where gas is used, 1,000 cubic feet per month allowed at rate charged in the district, plus service charge.

*Sundries.* One dollar a month per person, with a maximum of \$7 for a family.

Age—Years	Boys Cost per Month		Girls Cost per Month	
	A	B	A	B
Under 2.....	\$ 5.20	\$ 6.93	\$ 5.20	\$ 6.93
2 " 3.....	5.42	7.15	5.20	6.93
3 " 4.....	5.63	7.15	5.42	6.93
4 " 7.....	5.85	7.37	5.63	6.93
7 " 8.....	6.28	7.58	5.85	7.15
8 " 9.....	6.72	8.02	6.28	7.37
9 " 11.....	7.58	8.67	6.50	7.80
12 " 15.....	9.20	11.00	7.37	8.45
15 " 16.....	9.75	11.92	7.80	8.88
Over 16.....	10.83	12.78	9.10	9.75

#### Qualifications for food allowances:

1. Family of three or less, B allowance for each member.
2. Nursing mother, \$13.65 (no extra allowance for baby).
3. Use B allowances where special nourishment required.
4. Deduct one-fourth allowance for adults eating lunches regularly away from home and make special allowance for lunches in budget estimate.
5. For all cases in which B allowance not recommended in above qualifications, use A allowance.
6. Allow for the average mother \$9.10 per month.

#### *Clothing:*

Woman at work.....	\$7.50
Woman at home.....	5.53
Older girl at work.....	7.50
Older boy at work.....	7.44
Girl 10-14 years.....	4.41
Boy 10-14 years.....	4.54
Child 6-10 years.....	3.62
Child 3-6 years.....	2.67
Child of 2 or under.....	2.78

*Insurance.* Each family considered separately.



## HOUSEHOLD EXPENSE ACCOUNT

INCOME

EXPENDITURES

	Date	Meats	Fruits, Vegetables	Flour, Sugar, Coffee	Clothing, Shoes	Household Furnish- ings	Running Expenses	Insurance, Savings	Advance- ment
Mothers' Aid check.....	July 1	eggs		one sack flour		curtain material	kerosene	insurance, 60c.	Church, 10c.
Mother's work.....	5						Ivory soap		
Children's work—1.....	6		snaps			rag rug			
2.....	8			sugar, honey, grits					tablet and pencil, 10c.
Boarders or lodgers.....	9								
Gifts (list articles received and from whom).....	10	fish			boy's pants				
Amount received.....	12								magazine, 25c.
	13				five yds. gingham			John saves 10c. a week for his edu- cation	
Total.....		\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....
Amount on hand at beginning of month.....	Etc.	\$.....							
Amount received during month.....									
Subtract amount spent.....									
Total on hand.....		\$.....							
List dates when supplies were bought.									
								Grand total, \$.....	

Advancement includes Health, Education, Recreation, and Church.

### HEALTH

The health of the family is one of the great problems in Mothers' Aid. In the majority of cases the mother has been trying to the limit of her strength to keep her children with her. She has neglected herself and her nerves are on edge. If this disintegrating process has not gone too far, often the doctor who examines her will say "rest and relief from worry about money matters is what she needs." If this fight, against odds too heavy for her, has gone on long, there may be organic trouble or incipient trouble that will take time and money to straighten out before the mother is in condition to care for her children. Sometimes teeth, eyes, tonsils, falling arches need attention.

Children are frequently undernourished, their eyes, teeth, tonsils in bad condition. Sometimes they are found to have incipient tuberculosis, hookworm, or are crippled. (See Constructive Work Examples.)

#### Physical Examinations

If each county will have thorough physical examinations made of each member of the family before the grant is made, much time and energy will be saved. It is hard to persuade a mother already getting checks to have an examination later.

#### Health Departments

If the county has a whole-time health officer, county nurse, or both, the superintendent should talk with them about the Mothers' Aid cases and get their help in examinations and treatment whenever possible.

#### Physician

If there is no county health officer, then the local physicians will generally be found willing and able to help, if they understand the work and the need.

#### Specialist

When a case for a specialist comes up, eyes, ears, nose, throat, tuberculosis, etc., a doctor should be consulted. His interest should be enlisted in the constructive preventive work being done and his best terms should be requested for the family. If the mother can pay even a small amount on the bill, monthly, it will be better for her than to accept too much from charity.

#### Hospitals

The superintendent should know the hospital situation in his county. He should talk over the case he wants admitted and give the institution the sort of coöperation that he expects from it.

#### Clinics

The superintendent should find out ahead of time prospective clinics for eyes, teeth, cripples, etc., and get patients needing attention in touch with the doctors.

To put mother and children in good physical condition and keep them so, to help mother financially so she can keep her children in school, are the greatest opportunities the State has in Mothers' Aid work.

### EDUCATION

The law requires that every child be kept in school until he or she is fourteen. The mother on the county and State Mothers' Aid list is under double obligation to do this, for she is receiving aid with this end in view. She should not have to offer as excuse in cotton and berry and tobacco seasons that she has to keep them out to make money. If the county and State are helping, they are under obligations to help enough, otherwise they are breaking their contract.

Whether or not a child stays in school after he is fourteen depends largely on the child's ability and the superintendent's efforts. If the child has been slow, uninterested, anxious to get out and work, perhaps further time spent in school would be useless. Effort to find him a job "with a future" would be more worth while. On the other hand, an ambitious, gifted, intelligent child who wants to continue through high school and college, or take special work, should have an opportunity to go on. The superintendent, or a member of his board, should exhaust every source of help to give the child his chance.

In one county the Kiwanis Club furnished clothes and books for a fifteen-year-old girl who wanted the home economics training in the high school. She worked in the summer.

In another county a Rotarian gave a boy a flute and made arrangements for lessons. The boy worked after school, on Saturdays and during the summer, and finally paid for his lessons himself.

In still another family the superintendent got several Sunday School classes and individuals to finance a sixteen-year-old girl at a boarding school for a year. If she makes a good record this year, further plans will be made.

A boy of fifteen wanted to finish high school and then work as apprentice in a machine shop. He could not learn Latin. A talk with the principal helped. The boy dropped Latin, concentrated on his other studies, worked Saturdays and in summer, finished his course, and is now doing well as an apprentice and helping his mother.

This question of "vocational guidance" is a grave responsibility in our work. It is the business of the county and State departments of welfare to know the abilities and opportunities and desires of the children receiving aid and to steer them in the right way. "The greatest adjustments which the individual makes in life are to love and to work. If the children under our care are nurtured and reared to their working years in good homes, and if they are aided in finding jobs suited to their individual capacities for self-expression, we will have done our part in giving them a foundation for that greatest of the arts, the art of developing one's own character."

The tendency to take a mother off the list as soon as she has one or more children above fourteen is one that should be eliminated. Children above twelve and fourteen should realize, as much as possible, the home situation and be trained to do their part of the work and to make enough to buy their own clothes if possible, but no group of county officials should throw the entire support of a family on the older children. Too many times such a policy results in the children's leaving home and "going on their own."



## IX. SUMMARY OF 206 CASES OF MOTHERS' AID

(All the approved cases up to August 15, 1924.)

The following study, made by Mr. George Lawrence, of the School of Public Welfare at the University of North Carolina, was first printed in the Biennial Report of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare to the General Assembly of 1925. Because the study is still true of present conditions in Mothers' Aid families, it is reprinted here.

During the first year of operation of Mothers' Aid in North Carolina, or to be more exact, from August 1, 1923, when the first case was approved up to August 15, 1924, a total of 206 cases were approved by the State Director of Mothers' Aid.

Information on these 206 cases was tabulated, classified, and summarized in order that it might be made clear just who were the people being assisted and what were some of the pertinent facts regarding their social and economic status.

### A. Localities of Families:

Chart 1 shows clearly that our problem with Mothers' Aid in North Carolina is largely a rural one. This, however, is to be expected when we consider that in spite of the many people engaged in manufacturing ours is still primarily a rural population.

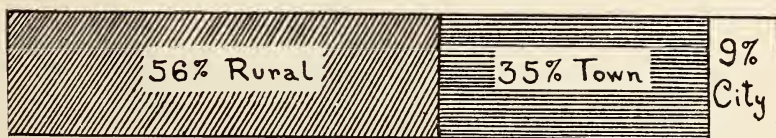
"City" defined as a place of 20,000 population or over.

"Town" defined as an incorporated place of under 20,000.

"Rural" defined as all unincorporated places.

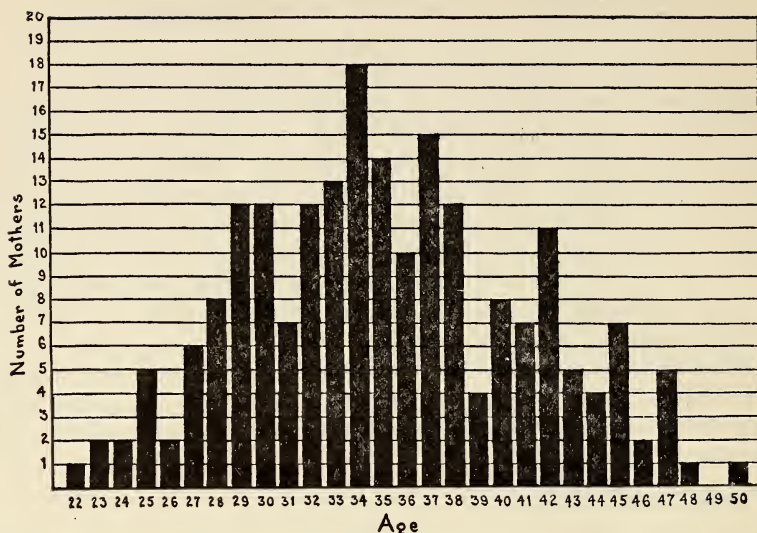
City .....	19
Town .....	71
Rural .....	116
	<hr/>
	206

### Localities of Families



### B. Ages of Mothers:

The mothers being assisted range in ages from 22 to 50 years, averaging 35.2 although 34 is the most frequent age. Thus it is seen we are dealing with women who are mostly in the prime of life at the stage of maturity where we could expect them to give of their best for their children.



Range—from 22 to 50 years.

Average age—35.2 years.

### C. Length of Mothers' Residence in North Carolina:

Our law requires a residence in the State of 3 years, but it is interesting to note the exceptionally high percentage of mothers who have spent their entire lives in North Carolina. Not a single mother is foreign-born, and practically all of the 13 per cent not natives of North Carolina came from the adjoining states of South Carolina and Virginia.

Lived in North Carolina for life.....	179
Lived in North Carolina 21 years or over.....	11
Lived in North Carolina 11 to 20 years.....	5
Lived in North Carolina 6 to 10 years.....	5
Lived in North Carolina 5 years or under.....	6
Total.....	206

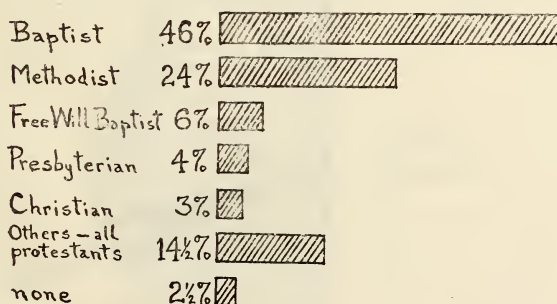
### Mothers' Residence in N.C.

Life	87%	<div style="width: 87%; background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black;"></div>
21 yrs. or over	5%	<div style="width: 5%; background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black;"></div>
11-20 yrs.	2½%	<div style="width: 2.5%; background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black;"></div>
6-10 yrs.	2½%	<div style="width: 2.5%; background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black;"></div>
5 yrs. or under	3%	<div style="width: 3%; background-color: #d3d3d3; border: 1px solid black;"></div>

*D. Church Affiliations of Mothers:*

Because of the variations of standards as to just what constitutes church membership, affiliations were listed rather than memberships. Only 5 of the 206 mothers, or about 2 per cent, have no church affiliation.

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>No. of Mothers</i>
Baptist .....	95
Free Will Baptist.....	12
Primitive Baptist .....	3
Methodist .....	49
Methodist Protestant .....	5
Presbyterian .....	8
Christian .....	7
Episcopalian .....	4
A. R. P.....	3
Reformed .....	3
Holiness .....	3
Moravian .....	3
Lutheran .....	2
Quaker .....	2
Mormon .....	1
Church of Living God.....	1
No affiliation listed.....	5
Total.....	206

*Church Affiliations of Mothers**E. Occupations of Husbands:*

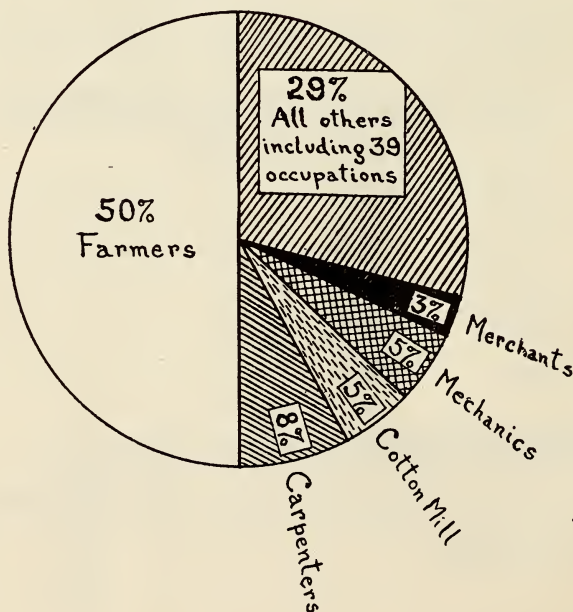
Since over half of the mothers live in rural localities, the fact that 50 per cent of the husbands were farmers is a logical sequence. To many the low percentage of husbands who were cotton-mill workers, 5 per cent, will be surprising.

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>No. of husbands</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>No. of husbands</i>
Farmer .....	103	Barber .....	3
Carpenter .....	16	Furniture Factory .....	3
Cotton Mill .....	11	Clerk .....	3
Mechanic .....	11	Electrician .....	3
Merchant .....	7	Plumber .....	2
Sawmill .....	4	Preacher .....	2
Day Laborer .....	4	Railroad Work .....	2
Painter .....	3		

One each of the following:

Blacksmith	Laundryman
Bookkeeper	Lumberman
Brick Mason	Mail Carrier
Car Cleaner	Mattress Maker
Car Repairer	Meat Market
Carpenter and Policeman	Planing Mill
Fisherman	Policeman
Garage Helper	Postoffice Clerk
Hospital Attendant	Railroad Conductor
Insurance Agent	Road Construction
Insurance Agent and Jitney Driver	Teacher
Interior Decorator	Tobacco Factory
Iron Worker and "Hot Dog" Stand	Transfer Work
Jitney Driver	Undertaker
Jobber	

Occupations of Husbands

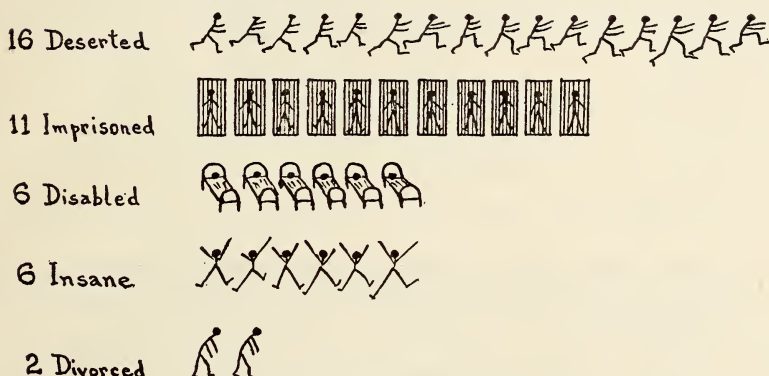




*F. Marital Status of Mothers:*

Although Mothers' Aid is primarily for the family where the mother is a widow, we find that 41, or 20 per cent, of the husbands are still living.

165 widows
41 have husbands living
<hr/> 206

*Of 41 Living Husbands**G. Causes of Deaths of Husbands:*

A glance at the following table of causes of deaths of 165 husbands reveals the high percentage of deaths from preventable diseases.

<i>Causes of death</i>	<i>No. of husbands</i>	<i>Causes of death</i>	<i>No. of husbands</i>
Pneumonia .....	24	Dropsy .....	6
Influenza .....	19	Meningitis .....	4
Tuberculosis .....	17	Appendicitis .....	4
Accident .....	15	Kidney Trouble .....	4
Bright's Disease .....	11	Diabetes .....	3
Typhoid .....	8	Blood Poisoning .....	3
Murdered .....	6	Drowned .....	3
Heart Trouble .....	6	High Blood Pressure.....	2
Paralysis .....	6	Not Known .....	3
Cancer .....	6		

One each of the following:

Acute Indigestion  
Apoplexy  
Bronchial Asthma  
Congestion of Brain  
Dysentery  
Encephalitis  
Gas Gangrene  
Malarial Fever

Pleurisy  
Ptomaine Poisoning  
Rupture  
Tumor of Brain  
Typhoid Pneumonia  
Ulcer of Stomach  
Suicide

*H. (a) Length of Time Between Death of 165 Husbands and Date of Approval of Application:*

Before the passage of the Mothers' Aid Law many of our widows struggled along for years after the death of their husbands without the advantages of State and county assistance, but it is gratifying to find that in nearly one-third of the cases aid has been given within a year of the loss of the family breadwinner. As the time wears on and the full value of Mothers' Aid is appreciated it is hoped that assistance will be forthcoming in most cases within a few months of the deaths of the husbands, thus approaching a form of social insurance.

<i>Length of time</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Length of time</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
Under 1 year.....	48	5 to 6 years.....	9
1 to 2 years.....	45	6 to 7 years.....	5
2 to 3 years.....	21	7 to 8 years.....	2
3 to 4 years.....	18	8 to 9 years.....	3
4 to 5 years.....	14		

Average length of time, 1 year and 11 months.

*(b) Length of Time Between Desertion, Disability, Imprisonment, Insanity, or Divorce of 41 Husbands and Date of Approval of Application:*

<i>Length of time</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Length of time</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
<b>Of 16 Deserting Husbands</b>		<b>Of 11 Imprisoned Husbands</b>	
Under 1 year.....	4	Under 1 year.....	8
1 to 2 years.....	3	1 to 2 years.....	1
2 to 3 years.....	4	2 to 3 years.....	2
3 to 4 years.....	1		
4 to 5 years.....	2	<b>Of 6 Insane Husbands</b>	
6 to 7 years.....	1	1 to 2 years.....	2
No date of desertion.....	1	2 to 3 years.....	3
		6 to 7 years.....	1
<b>Of 6 Disabled Husbands</b>		<b>Of 2 Divorced Husbands</b>	
Under 1 year.....	1		
2 to 3 years.....	3	2 to 3 years.....	1
3 to 4 years.....	2	5 to 6 years.....	1

Average length of time:

Desertions—2 years, 2½ months; disabled—2 years, 3 months; imprisoned—10½ months; insane—2 years, 7½ months; divorced—3 years, 6 months.

The Division of Mothers' Aid has ruled that no deserted mother may apply under one year, and only after every effort has been made to require the husband to assume his financial obligations.

From the above figures it would seem that the families of imprisoned men come most quickly to our attention. It is possible, however, that at a later date, when a greater number of cases are tabulated, that the results will disapprove this assumption.

*I. (a) Calendar Year of Deaths of 165 Husbands:*

The following two tables simply augment the preceding two, although by means of them it may be possible to better estimate the extent of our problem for the next year or two.

1924 .....	7	1919 .....	10
1923 .....	41	1918 .....	9
1922 .....	44	1917 .....	5
1921 .....	21	1916 .....	2
1920 .....	23	1915 .....	3

*(b) Calendar Year When 41 Living Husbands Ceased Supporting Families:*

1924 .....	4	1920 .....	4
1923 .....	11	1919 .....	3
1922 .....	7	1917 .....	2
1921 .....	9	No date given.....	1

*J. Children Under 14 Years:*

By a mere coincidence this study includes exactly 1,000 persons given assistance through Mothers' Aid, since there are 794 children under 14 in addition to the 206 mothers. It might be thought that the average number of children under 14 per family would be higher than 3.9. The length of time from marriage to the cessation of the support of the husband in a large measure accounts for this figure.

Total number in 206 families.....	794
Average per family.....	3.9
Range per family.....	1 to 8

Number of families with one child under 14.....	3
Number of families with two children under 14.....	33
Number of families with three children under 14.....	42
Number of families with four children under 14.....	68
Number of families with five children under 14.....	38
Number of families with six children under 14.....	18
Number of families with seven children under 14.....	3
Number of families with eight children under 14.....	1

, Total families .....206

*K. Children 14 Years Old and Over:*

In over half of the 78 families where there were children 14 years old or over there was only one such child per family. This indicates that these families in most cases cannot count on much financial help from the older children simply because there are not enough of them, neither are they of sufficient age to replace the income which formerly was provided by their fathers.

In 78 of the 206 families there were children 14 years or over, totaling 130.

Average per family of these 78 families, 1.7.

Range, 1 to 5.

Number of families with one child 14 or over.....	43
Number of families with two children 14 or over.....	25
Number of families with three children 14 or over.....	6
Number of families with four children 14 or over.....	1
Number of families with five children 14 or over.....	3

Total families .....	78
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### *L. Children Born After Death or Nonsupport of Husbands:*

Something of the hardships which have been endured by many of these mothers is shown by the tables below. In over 22 per cent of all the 206 families a child was born after the husband had been taken away by death, or by circumstances which caused his nonsupport. There were 51 such children in a total of 46 families. None of these children are illegitimate.

In 30 families one child was born after death of husband.

In 2 families twins were born after death of husband.

Total of 34 children born after death of husband.

In 5 families one child was born after desertion of husband.

In 3 families one child was born after imprisonment of husband.

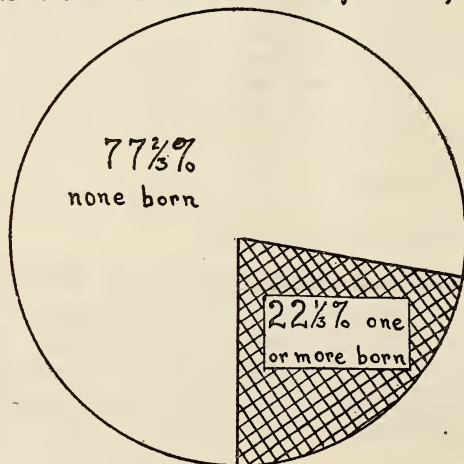
In 3 families one child was born after insanity of husband.

In 2 families one child was born after disablement of husband.

In 1 family 4 children (triplets and one other) were born after disablement of husband.

Total of 17 children.

Families where Children were Born after  
Death or Non-support of Husbands  
(None of these children are illegitimate)





*M. Occupations of Mothers Other Than Housekeeping:*

Among the occupations of the mothers, farming plays a major part. And this in most cases means no less than it would if the term were applied to a man—plowing the land, working the crops, and gathering the harvest. Whereas there were only 11 husbands listed as mill workers we find 29 mothers so engaged. This indicates that several women, after having been deprived of their husbands, consider mill work better adapted to their needs than some of the other occupations.

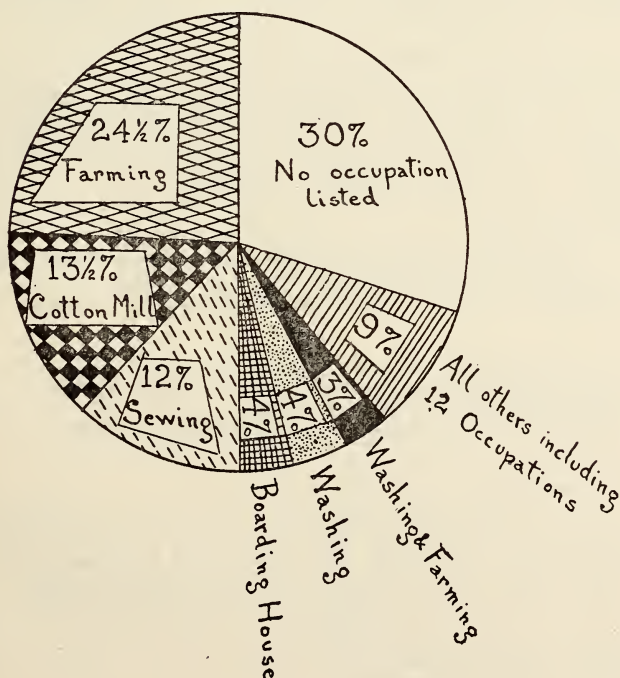
Occupation	No. of mothers	Occupation	No. of mothers
Farming .....	51	Washing and Farming.....	6
Cotton Mill .....	28	Washing and Sewing.....	3
Sewing .....	25	Sewing and Farming.....	3
Boarding House .....	8	Washing and Ironing.....	2
Washing .....	8	Clerk .....	2

One each of the following:

Bookkeeper	Film Inspector
Cotton Mill and Boarding House	Makes Baskets
Farming and Caretaker	Makes Berry Crates
Farming and Worker in Laundry	Merchant

Total of 144 out of 206 mothers.

Occupations of Mothers  
other than Housekeeping



*N. Occupations of Children 14 Years and Over:*

Of the 130 children over 14, occupations of 60 were definitely listed. The status of 22 others was also given; 35 of the remaining 48 were of rural families—11 from towns, and 2 from cities; in most cases they helped at home; many attend school.

Cotton Mill .....	16	Odd Jobs .....	3
Farm Work .....	9	Telephone Girl .....	2
Store Clerks .....	6	Print Shop .....	2
Tobacco Factory .....	5		

One each of the following:

Army	Navy
Construction Company	Newspaper Office
Dairy	Railroad Work
Furniture Factory	Sawmill
Hauls Wood	Shuttle Factory
Janitor at School	Teacher
Lumber Company	Training for Nurse
Mica Company	Waitress
Movie House	

Total of 60 out of 130 children

Children over 14 married.....	18
Children over 14 in orphanages.....	2
Children over 14 feeble-minded.....	1
Children over 14 invalid.....	1

*O. Rooms and Beds Per House:*

Since the average number of children under 14 per family is 3.9, the fact that the average number of rooms per house is also 3.9 seems to indicate that on the whole the housing situation among our Mothers' Aid families is not as poor as might be expected.

*Rooms per house—*

For 202 houses (4 cases not listed) total number rooms....	790
Average number of rooms per house.....	3.9
Range—1 to 8 (one boarding house contained 10 rooms)	

*Beds per house—*

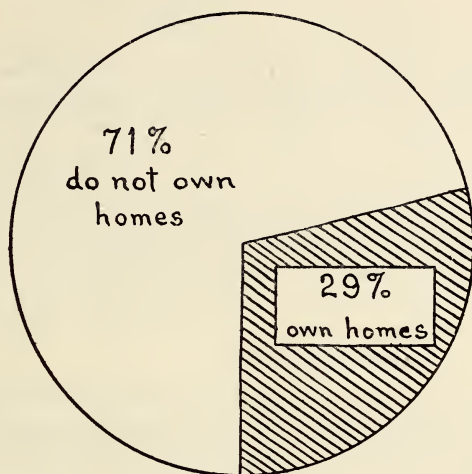
For 199 houses (7 cases not listed) total number beds.....	691
Average number of beds per house.....	3.5
Range—1 to 7 (one boarding house contained 13 beds)	

*P. Home Ownership:*

Sixty of the mothers own their homes; many of these homes, however, are mortgaged and practically all of them are of small valuation. In most of these cases encouragement has been given to retain ownership since the landed family tends to greater stability than the landless.

Families owning homes.....	60
Families not owning homes.....	146

## Home Ownership

*Q. Sources of Previous Aid for These 206 Families:*

The important part that relatives have played in assisting these families before Mothers' Aid has been granted is seen in the list below. Under the heading County is included assistance given by County Departments of Public Welfare in addition to County funds for the poor, etc. The 4 cases listed under Thomasville Orphanage Aid were transferred to the State plan of Mothers' Aid; in this connection the State Director has had occasion to recommend several other cases to Thomasville. Besides the 2 cases listed under Sale of Land many mothers were forced to sell furniture and other household equipment. The sale of crops and other produce, the earnings of children over 14, and the wages of some of the mothers have of course been important items in the support of these families prior to the granting of Mothers' Aid.

The following is a list of agencies with the number of families assisted by each:

Relatives .....	131	Husband's Employer .....	5
Friends and Neighbors.....	78	Thomasville Orphanage Aid.....	4
Churches .....	49	Kiwanis .....	2
County .....	46	K. K. K.....	2
Insurance .....	20	Junior Order .....	2
Red Cross .....	9	Odd Fellows .....	2
Associated Charities .....	8	King's Daughters .....	2
Masons .....	6	Sale of Land.....	2

One each of the following:

Cash left by husband  
City  
Husband's bondsmen  
Elks

Man who accidentally killed husband  
Merchant  
Newspaper  
Organization not named

Red Men  
Rotary  
Salvation Army

School  
Teacher  
Woodmen

In 20 out of the 206 cases no previous aid or assistance was listed. One hundred eighty-six cases had received previous assistance.

Let it not be supposed, however, that all these agencies have ceased their active interest upon the arrival of Mothers' Aid. On the contrary, the supervision which is part of the duty of those administering Mothers' Aid has in a great many cases awakened a keener sense of responsibility on the part of these individuals and organizations for the mothers and children who have now become recognized assets of the State.

*R. Length of Time Between Date of Application by Mothers in Counties and Date of Approval by State:*

At the outset there was necessarily a good deal of delay between the time the mother made application and the final approval of the State. Our county superintendents of public welfare were unfamiliar with the prescribed procedure and a considerable number of applications received by the State Director had to be returned for further information. Also, since the county commissioners and the county boards of public welfare meet regularly only once a month, applications often are held up to await action from these bodies. Because the State Director has had the field work, and the office work as well, cases have sometimes had to wait attention until her return from county trips. With more complete coöperation between county and State and a more general knowledge of how Mothers' Aid may be secured it is felt that the average length of time of 2 months as listed below can be cut in half.

<i>Length of time</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
Less than one week.....	5
1 to 2 weeks.....	6
2 to 3 weeks.....	20
3 weeks to 1 month.....	18
1 month to 1½ months.....	42
1½ months to 2 months.....	33
2 months to 2½ months.....	23
2½ months to 3 months.....	21
3 months to 3½ months.....	13
3½ months to 4 months.....	6
4 months to 4½ months.....	4
4½ months to 5 months.....	7
5 months to 5½ months.....	1
5½ months to 6 months.....	3
6 months to 7 months.....	1
7 months to 8 months.....	2
8 months to 9 months.....	1
Total families .....	206

Average length of time slightly over 2 months.



*S. Juvenile Court Records:*

The high character of the families being reached through Mothers' Aid is indicated by the fact that there was one lone juvenile court record among all the children of the 206 families. In this case a boy had been placed on probation and at last reports was doing well.

*T. Physical Examinations:*

Physical examinations had been given in 63 families out of the 206. In most cases all the members of these 63 families were examined. Many other Mothers' Aid families have since had physical examinations as a part of the supervision given.

*U. Illiteracy:*

Twenty-four mothers were unable to write, but in every one of these cases it was obvious that the intelligence and capability of these women qualified them as being competent to care for their children. Without exception they are all particularly anxious for their children to secure educational advantages of which they themselves were unfortunately deprived.

*V. Others in Household:*

In 77 out of the 206 families there were others besides the mother and children living in the same house. Many of these 77 mothers had been taken into homes of relatives after the husbands died, others were boarding relatives or outsiders, and a few lived in two-family houses.

*W. Previous Marriages of Mothers:*

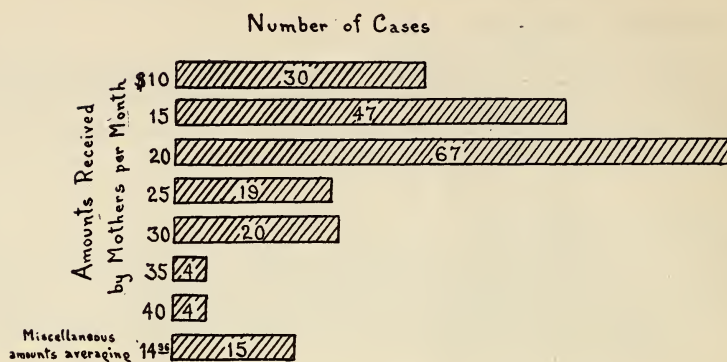
Only 8 mothers had been married twice:

*X. Amounts of Aid Granted:*

The following figures are for total amounts (half from State and half from county):

Total of \$3,944.44 per month for 206 cases.  
Average amount per month per case, \$19.15.

<i>Amount per month</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
\$10 .....	30
15 .....	47
20 .....	67
25 .....	19
30 .....	20
35 .....	4
40 .....	4
Odd amounts averaging \$14.96.....	15



### Y. Cancellation of Cases:

The first Mothers' Aid case was approved by the State Director August 1, 1923. On August 15, 1924, there were 191 cases in active operation, 15 having been canceled for the following reasons:

Married .....	5
Moved out of North Carolina.....	2
Moved out of county.....	1
Immorality .....	2
Mother self-supporting .....	1
Disabled husband supporting family.....	1
Deserting husband returned.....	1
Government pension granted.....	1
Thomasville Orphanage aid granted.....	1

### Z. Distribution by Counties:

County	No. of cases	County	No. of cases
Alamance .....	4	Edgecombe .....	5
Alexander .....	2	Forsyth .....	15
Alleghany .....	1	Franklin .....	5
Anson .....	4	Gaston .....	3
Beaufort .....	6	Graham .....	2
Bertie .....	1	Granville .....	4
Bladen .....	4	Guilford .....	7
Brunswick .....	2	Halifax .....	1
Buncombe .....	11	Harnett .....	2
Cabarrus .....	2	Henderson .....	3
Catawba .....	2	Iredell .....	8
Chatham .....	3	Johnston .....	8
Cherokee .....	2	Lee .....	1
Chowan .....	1	McDowell .....	3
Columbus .....	5	Macon .....	3
Cumberland .....	3	Madison .....	2
Dare .....	1	Mecklenburg .....	8
Davidson .....	9	Nash .....	1
Duplin .....	3	New Hanover .....	4

<i>County</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>
Orange .....	4	Stanly .....	4
Pasquotank .....	2	Surry .....	5
Pender .....	2	Swain .....	1
Pitt .....	3	Union .....	3
Richmond .....	3	Vance .....	1
Robeson .....	7	Wake .....	7
Rockingham .....	3	Wayne .....	4
Rowan .....	3	Wilson .....	1
Scotland .....	2		

Total of 55 counties represented.

### CLIPPINGS FROM LETTERS OF MOTHERS

"Many, many thanks for the check received recently. Am oh so grateful."

---

"Without Mothers' Aid checks I could not keep my children with me, but would be compelled to give them up. I am trying earnestly to teach them to be Christians, and to love the State that is doing so much for them. I will be glad of any advice you can give us—especially on nourishing foods for the children.

"May God bless all the noble ones who have made this possible for us."

---

"Novella said tell you she had been trying to drink milk, and they say they want you to come again. They will start school Monday. Well, you may know I am appreciating your work, for it certainly helps me."

---

"We are all three so thankful to our county and our State and will try to prove this by living right. Earle often adds to his prayer, 'God bless the Mothers' Aid.'"

---

"That Mother Goose Health Book you sent sure is fine. I can't read myself, but May has read it to all of us."

---

"I have received all the nice books and papers and we do appreciate them all. Our crops are looking good. Hurry and come back to see us."

---

"I want the Mothers' Aid Director to know how thankful I am of what they are doing for me, and I also feel so glad that this is for all the needy mothers with small children."

---

"I will write you a few lines and send you the account of what I have spent and tell you we are getting along very well. All the children are going to school and learning fast."

---

"I sure do thank you for the kindness which you have turned to me. The children all beg to be remembered to you."

"When I began to get help I was in debt and now I am able to settle all my debts and think I will be able to clothe the children and start them in school very soon. If it had not of been for the help I don't know what I would of done. I appreciate it so much. I want to give you my thanks for you good people that is working for us."

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The State Director has been making kodak pictures of the Mothers' Aid families. One of these pictures is so attractive and so typical that it was decided to use the picture for the little questionnaire bulletin, if the mother agreed. She replied: "I received your letter today. I would rather you would not use our picture. As I am not much of a public woman I don't care to have my picture in public."

This spirit is typical of the mothers receiving aid.

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One little girl writes: "I am glad for mama to get this help for us." "We have been to town and had our teeth fixed."

---

A mother writes her county superintendent: "I received my December Mothers' Aid check this evening and thank you for same. We are getting along very well at the present, the children are in school."

---

"You know you told me you didn't give the Mothers' Aid to those who stay away from their children. It sure did please me to hear that, for I don't want to stay away from mine. You see, I wasn't getting the Mothers' Aid. If I had been I would have been with my children."





## APPENDIX

### SUPERINTENDENT'S LIBRARY FOR MOTHERS' AID

- Social Diagnosis (Mary E. Richmond)—Russell Sage Foundation.  
 What is Social Case Work (Mary E. Richmond)—Russell Sage Foundation.  
 The Delinquent Child and the Home (Breckenridge & Abbott)—Russell Sage Foundation.  
 Social Case History (Ada E. Sheffield)—Russell Sage Foundation.  
 Broken Homes (Colcord)—Russell Sage Foundation.  
 The Family and Social Case Work (Edward T. Devine)—The Survey.  
 Child Training (Angelo Patri)—The Survey.  
 The Child's Unconscious Mind (Lay)—The Survey.  
 Youth in Conflict (Van Waters)—The Survey.  
 Successful Family Life (Abel)—Lippencott.  
 What Men Live By (Cabot)—Houghton Mifflin.  
 When Fathers Drop Out—Society for Improving Condition of the Poor, New York.  
 Standard of Care for Children in Their Own Homes—U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.  
 Bulletins on Living Conditions and Family Living in Farm Homes of Various States—U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.  
 Manual of Mothers' Assistance Fund—State Department of Welfare, Harrisburg, Pa.  
 Rural Standards of Living—N. C. A. and E. College, Raleigh, N. C.

### BULLETINS FOR MOTHERS

*At Raleigh, N. C.*

- State Forester.....Dept. of Conservation and Development.  
 Bulletins.....Child Welfare Commission.  
 Poultry Raising Bulletin.....N. C. Agricultural Department.  
 Gardening Bulletin.....N. C. Agricultural Department.  
 Household Bulletin.....N. C. Agricultural Department.  
 Health Bulletin.....N. C. State Board of Health.  
 Bulletin 447 (Bees).....U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
 Bulletin 961 (Modern Hives).....U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
 Bulletin 653 (Honey).....U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
 Bulletin 1409 (Turkey Raising).....U. S. Department of Agriculture.  
 School of Applied Arts.....Battle Creek, Michigan.  
 Woman's Institute of Domestic  
     Arts and Sciences.....Scranton, Pennsylvania.  
 Franklin Institute.....Rochester, N. Y.  
 Homekraft Studio: Weaving.....No. 50 Barrow Street, New York.  
 Miscellaneous Bulletins.....Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., N. Y.  
 Bulletin on Bulbs.....U. S. Experiment Station, Willards, N. C.

## X. CHILD LABOR LAWS

**5032. Employment of children under fourteen regulated.** No child under the age of fourteen years shall be employed or permitted to work, in or about or in connection with any mill, factory, cannery, workshop, or manufacturing establishment. No child under the age of fourteen years shall be employed, or permitted to work, in or about or in connection with any laundry, bakery, mercantile establishment, office, hotel, restaurant, barber shop, boot-black stand, public stable, garage, place of amusement, brick yard, lumber yard, or any messenger or delivery service, public works, or any form of street trades, except in cases and under regulations prescribed by the Commission herein created, provided the employments in this section enumerated shall not be construed to include bona fide boys' and girls' canning clubs recognized by the Agricultural Department of this State, or vocational training classes authorized by the State Board of Education, and such canning clubs and vocational classes are hereby expressly exempted from the provisions of this article.

**5033. Prohibited employments of children under sixteen.** No person under sixteen years of age shall be employed, or permitted to work, at night in any of the places or occupations referred to in the first preceding section, between the hours of nine p.m. and six a.m., and no person under sixteen years of age shall be employed or permitted to work in or about or in connection with any quarry or mine, nor shall any child under the age of sixteen years be employed, except in cases and under regulations prescribed by the Commission herein created, when (1) such child has symptoms of disease contributory to retardation or disability; or (2) when determined by physical examination that employment of such child is injurious to its health; or (3) employed when surrounding conditions are injurious to its morals; or (4) employed when dangerous employment hazards are present.

**5034. Age certificates.** No child under the age of sixteen years shall be employed in any of the ways enumerated in this act unless at the time of such employment the employer shall in good faith procure, rely upon and place on file, a certificate issued in such form and under such conditions and by such persons as the said Commission herein provided for shall prescribe, showing that the person is of legal age for such employment, and the laws and rules made by the State Child Welfare Commission under authority of this act have been complied with. The possession of such certificate by an employer shall be prima facie evidence that he has complied with the requirements and obligations of this act when employing such child. No person shall knowingly make a false statement or present false evidence in or in relation to any such certificate or application therefor or cause any false statement to be made which may result in the issuance of an improper certificate of employment.

### LIMIT OF HOURS—MINORS, WOMEN, ADULTS

(Consolidated Statutes, Section 6554)

**6554. Week's work to be sixty hours.** Sixty hours shall constitute a week's work in all factories and manufacturing establishments of the State, and no minor nor woman shall be worked in such factory or establishment a longer period than sixty hours in one week, and no adult male shall be worked in such factory or establishment for a longer period than sixty hours in one week unless there shall be a written contract entered into between said adult male and his employer to that effect in which the employer shall

agree to pay said adult male extra compensation for extra hours he may work. No employee in any factory or manufacturing establishment in this State shall be worked exceeding eleven hours in any one day: *Provided*, this section shall not apply to engineers, firemen, superintendents, overseers, section and yard hands, office men, watchmen, or repairers of breakdowns.

1915, c. 148, s. 2.

[PUBLIC LAWS 1919]

### CHAPTER 100

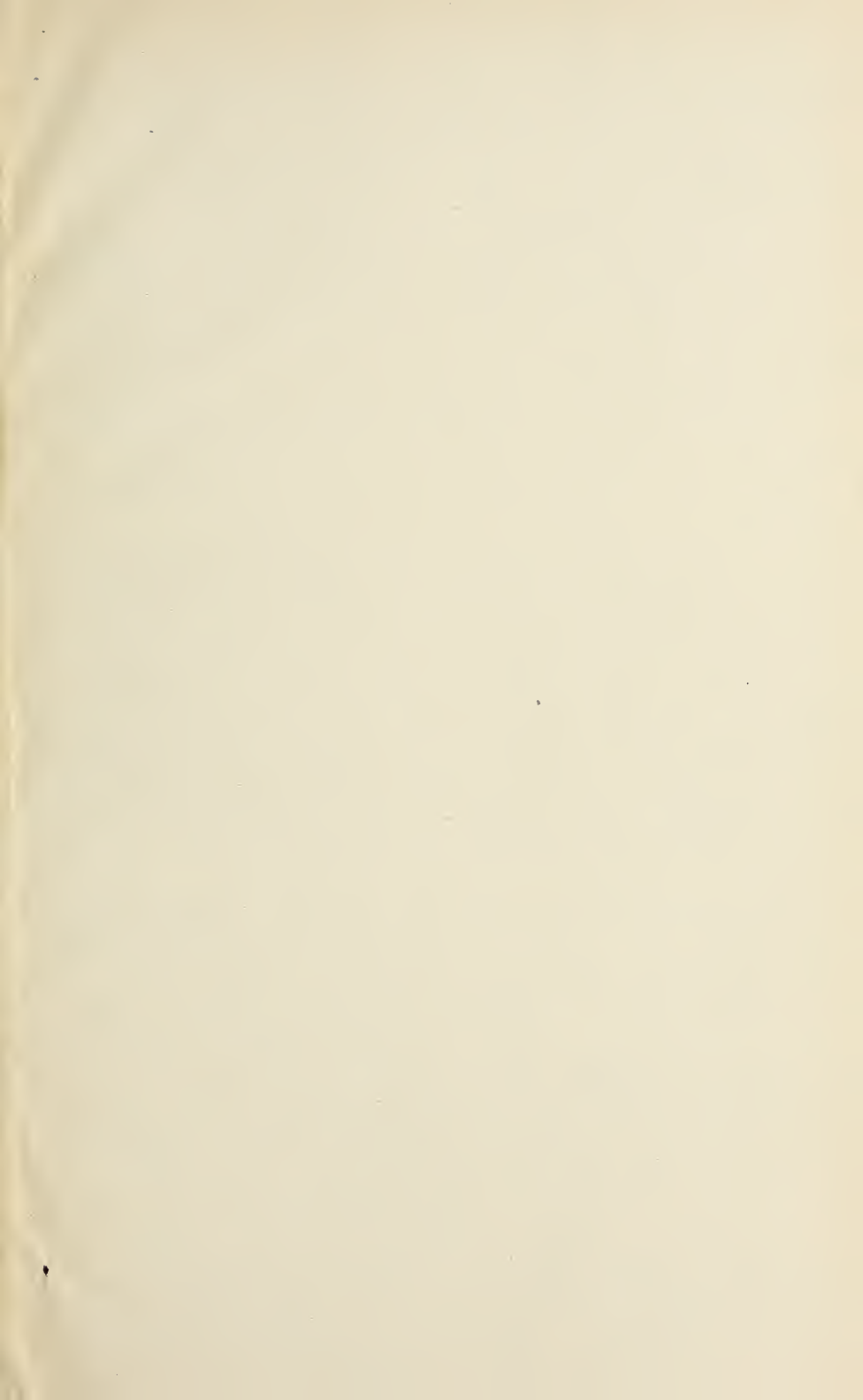
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE UPON THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF CHILDREN BETWEEN CERTAIN AGES, AND TO REGULATE AND RESTRICT THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT AND OF CHAPTER 83, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1913, AND CHAPTER 857, PUBLIC LAWS OF 1909.

*The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:*

SECTION 1. Every parent, guardian, or other person in the State of North Carolina having charge or control of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school in the district in which the child resides shall be in session. The principal, superintendent, or teacher who is in charge of such school shall have the right to excuse the child from temporary attendance on account of sickness or distance of residence from the school, or other unavoidable cause which does not constitute truancy as defined by the State Board of Education.

SEC. 2. Any parent, guardian, or other person referred to in section one of this act, violating the provisions of the aforesaid section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five dollars (\$5), nor more than twenty-five dollars (\$25), and upon failure or refusal to pay such fine, the said parent, guardian, or other person shall be imprisoned not exceeding thirty days in the county jail.







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